

ANNUAL REPORT



WESTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS

2010



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**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS**



**TOWN
OF
WESTHAMPTON**

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010

DEDICATION

This year's Town Report is dedicated to the Westhampton Highway Department, ably led by Superintendent David Blakesley, and the crew - Jerry Ostrowski, Mike Robbins and Bill Jablonski, as well as recent retiree Peter Montague. We all know the crew for their dedicated work keeping the roads in the best shape possible with limited resources and for the great job they do in the winter keeping the roads passable. They are out there late at night and early in the morning making sure the roads are safe for all of us. It's not uncommon to hear people say, "The roads were terrible until I hit our town line!"

Building on the tradition of a community resource set by longtime Highway Superintendent Bill Tracy, the Department also helps us all in many ways that most do not realize. Whenever anything is wrong at the Town Hall, from lighting to furnaces to water, the first call is to the Highway Department. They either fix it or find someone who will. They keep our town lots plowed, and even cleared the sidewalks for a time when no one else could be found to do it. They offered the same assistance to the former library, and were very active in construction of the new one, installing water lines, septic, drainage, the parking lot, and more.

The Elementary School also benefits from the Highway Department's commitment to the town, with the lots being plowed and sanded, and the crew's assistance with various issues throughout the years. In addition, they keep the Transfer Station plowed and sanded and help with projects there as needed. Recently, the crew moved many of the town offices into the refurbished former library, patiently moving furniture around until all were satisfied, and then they did the same for the remaining offices in the Town Hall.

The Highway Department is a great resource in these difficult budgetary times. These men save the town money and make life easier for those in town government. Their willingness to help outside their own department is much appreciated. We take this opportunity to offer our appreciation and thanks to a great team!

REPORT OF THE SELECTBOARD

January 2010 started with Brian Mulvehill (Chairman), John Shaw (Clerk), and James Huston serving on Westhampton's Selectboard. After elections in June when Brian Mulvehill was reelected, the Board reorganized with John Shaw as Chairman, Brian as Clerk and James continuing to serve as the third member. Margaret Parsons once again continues as the Selectboard's Administrative Assistant. Margaret's helpful advice is invaluable and we appreciate and thank her for so many years of dedicated service. We also thank the members of all departments and committees for their time and dedication. Westhampton is blessed to have so many volunteers who are willing to keep the town running smoothly.

As expected, 2010 was a challenging year financially. We continued to see reductions in state and local aid receipts. The combined rising cost for fuel, computer services, road salt, sand, oil based products and insurance affected an even tighter budget. Again, the Board thanks the departments and committees for working with us to keep the town accomplishing what it does at such a value.

Highway Department: In 2010, the Selectboard and David Blakesley (Highway Superintendent) continued to meet with Mass Highway regarding the South Road project. David, along with the Board and Margaret, were in constant communication trying to push the "Loud" bridge back on the agenda. In October, Representative Peter Kocot also assisted with trying to obtain answers regarding the delay with construction. The Board, David and Margaret continue to work on this frustrating project.

In February, the Selectboard needed to approve overspending in the snow removal account. In Spring, the Board approved the Highway Department's request to provide services for the new library project. They worked on catch basins, septic tank and leach field installations, site preparation for the parking lot, and graded loam and seed around the perimeter. The Board also

approved David's requests moving loam to the cemetery for grading and seeding, and installation of a special illuminated box in front of the Town Hall to comply with the new Open Meeting laws.

The Highway Department's Article to purchase a wood chipper passed at the Annual Town Meeting and the Selectboard approved David's recommendation of the best bid. David continued to work with Mass Highway on obtaining funding for paving of Rt. 66.

A discussion was held with David, Chief White and the Board regarding stop signs at two intersections. Creating 4-Way stops or larger stop signs, use of reflective tape, stop sign ahead signs and stop lines were talked about. The vote was against creating 4-Way stops.

At each Selectboard meeting, David gives a synopsis of the department's current activities. The Board would like to thank and recognize this small department's ability to repair and maintain the Town's equipment, patch pot holes, clear brush, assist the street sweeper, edge the roads with the brush mower, grade dirt roads, prepare roads to be patched or paved, fix catch basins, work on any storm clean-up, snow removal and sanding. In addition, David also builds in time to perform the department's administrative duties, i.e., state budgets and laws. The Selectboard would like to thank Peter Montague for helping the Highway Department during Mike Robbins illness. We hope Mike recovers quickly.

Fire Department and EMT's: In 2010, Fire Chief Christopher Norris and Emergency Medical Services Coordinator Robert Miller continued to oversee this large group of dedicated volunteers. Chief Norris and the department secured several grants which were used to purchase equipment and provide training for members. Part of a grant allowed the department to purchase a new Rescue Truck which was placed in service in May. This truck assists both fire personnel and EMT's on calls. The Selectboard approved the request to apply for a Special

Permit for an addition to the rear of the Safety Complex. The addition will house the new air trailer.

The Board received a letter from the City of Northampton thanking the Fire Department and the Town for the mutual aid response on the night of December 27, 2009. When Chief Norris met with the Board, he stated that two engine companies were sent to Northampton to aid in fighting the numerous set fires. He assured the Board that at no time was the town left without coverage. Time spent in training proved to be invaluable during that intense mutual aid call. The members are to be congratulated for their professionalism and rapid response to an emergency situation.

The Selectboard welcomed two new EMT's to the department: Ashleigh Norris and Jon Long. EMT Tim Dunn is on temporary leave while he serves in the Armed Forces. We cannot say enough about the dedication and professionalism of our Fire Department and EMT's and the volunteerism which lives in Westhampton 24/7. Please join the Selectboard and say thank you when you see a member.

Police Department: The Selectboard would like to thank Chief David White and his officers for providing such professional and dedicated services to Westhampton residents. The Board appreciates their dedication with continuing to upgrade education in law enforcement. Chief White's Warrant Article 10, a 4WD police vehicle, was approved at the Annual Town Meeting. The Selectboard accepted the resignation of Scott Johndrow and Fred Thouin. The Board thanks them for their years of service.

Chief White and the Selectboard continued to review and update operational and administrative policies and procedures. The Chief has spent many added hours on this process to keep the department updated with ever changing policies and laws.

Finance Committee: These members spent many evenings stressing over financial decisions and recommendations to voters for the Annual Town Meeting. We know the town appreciates

your wise counsel. Pricilla Flynn stepped down from the Committee and we thank her for her many years of service.

Board of Health: In June, Martin Flynn stepped down from the Board and we thank him for his many years of service to Westhampton. Mary Montague and Bob Turner were elected to the Board. On the advice of the hiring committee and Tom Martin (Chair of the Board), the Selectboard hired Joshua Mathieu as the town's Health Agent. Joshua's experience facilitates the ever expanding Town, State and Federal requirements. To comply with the Department of Environmental Protection's order, the Board approved test sampling of an old Southampton Road landfill. Site testing has shown the results to be within normal range but monitoring will continue. The Board thanks Don Fox for covering at the Transfer Station while John Guimond was away.

Hampshire County Council of Government: Westhampton continued to be active in our membership with the C.O.G. Thank you Pat Miller for acting as Westhampton's representative. The Board continued to look at shared services with other Counties. The C.O.G. is looking into a lower cost electric plan for residents. Currently, the town has such a plan for town buildings that is successful.

Library: The library continued to move toward completion and the Grand Opening. In March, it was voted to change the name to "Westhampton Public Library". The Board would like to thank those who dedicated so much effort and funds to help construct the new home for the town's library. It was approved to close part of North Road for the ceremonial book move in August. The Library Trustees, along with folks too numerous to mention, organized the dedication ceremony on October 17. It was well attended by state and local officials and by excited Westhampton residents and friends. Warrant Article 23 called for the Selectboard to appoint the future Fall Festival Committee, but this call did not draw volunteers. At a later date, the Board approved The Friends of the Library's offer to sponsor the Fall Festival—a big thanks to the Friends group.

Other Business:

- Voted, with the assistance of additional town officials, to clearly name the road in back of the triangle area on North Road to be part of Southampton Road.
- Approved Hilltown CDC plan to move forward with Westhampton Woods Senior Housing Project.
- Approved Connor Silvernail's Eagle project to refurbish four benches on the town common. Thank you for a job well done.
- Opened discussion with Hilltown CDC for possible grant for Handicapped bathroom for the Annex.
- Approved the remodeling of the Town Annex (former Library building).
- Agreed with the Open Space Committee's plan to move forward with assisting raising money to purchase the Skibiski property off Turkey Hill Road. The land purchase must be approved at town meeting.
- Approved using an outside company to create the new www.Westhampton-ma.gov website. This site houses the town's announcements, names of town officials, by-laws, calendar, forms, etc.

The Board continued to meet with Boards, Committees and Departments as needed. We recognize the work by the Town Clerk, Board of Registrars and Poll Workers for a great job. It was an unusually busy year with the special election, town election, state primary, and state election. We accepted the resignation of Cathy Shaw as Town Clerk and appointed Erin Blakesley. Cathy continues to serve on the Board of Registrars.

After listening to concerns of Westhampton residents, the Board voted to have the Building Inspector, Fire Department, Conservation Commission, Board of Health and Selectboard complete a site visit to Westhampton Auto Sales. This visit was part of the agreement during the hearing for a Class III License. The inspection of said property found numerous violations to the license requirements. The Board then voted to deny their Class III License renewal.

The Board met with the Library Director, Highway Superintendent and snow removal workers to discuss a Snow Closing Policy for town buildings. In light of recent court rulings which make municipalities more liable for falls on property, it was voted to establish the following policy:

If the Regional School closes, all town buildings and the transfer station will be closed for the entire day and evening. On weekends or school vacation days, the closing will be decided between the Highway Superintendent and Selectboard Chair. This policy will be re-addressed at the close of the 2011 winter.

The Board approved starting the remodeling of the Town Hall Annex and the Selectboard's office (Town Hall Office). Funding for moving offices was approved at the Annual Town Meeting. The Annex now has four office spaces serving the Board of Assessors, Board of Health and Health Agent, Building Inspector, Conservation Committee, Council on Aging, Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Tax Collector, ZBA, etc. The Town Accounting Officer, Town Treasurer, Town Clerk, Administrative Assistant and Selectboard continue to meet in the Town Hall. Our thanks to Margaret Parsons, Ralph Hancewicz, Celeste Whiting, the Highway Department, and John and Cathy Shaw for helping with the Annex remodel. Thank you to Marianne Zurn and Mike and Karen Derouin for donations of office furniture, and thank you Julia Volkman for storing furniture until needed. The Board thanks Mike Labrecque, Todd Alexander, and Dan Young for your excellent workmanship on remodeling and updating the building and to Robert Miller for the installation of computer systems.

In closing, the Selectboard continues to look for residents to serve on boards and committees that have vacancies. Please view the town website for openings. Again, we thank everyone who takes the time to serve in so many ways. We realize that without assistance from dedicated residents, the town's work could not be

done. We welcome everyone's input at our Board meetings and encourage your participation.

Respectfully submitted,
John Shaw, Chair
Brian Mulvehill, Clerk
James Huston

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

BIRTHS	14
MARRIAGES	3
May 22, 2010	Purnima Mandal to Sarah Jay Van Driesche
June 5, 2010	Zachary Pruzynski to Molly Thornton
October 9, 2010	Fletcher Aldrich Nehring to Kelly Ann Sousa
DEATHS	8
January 13, 2010	Freeman Scott
March 17, 2010	Anna Bobala
April 3, 2010	Eileen Loud
May 2, 2010	Jean Stroh
May 5, 2010	Ruth Ann Allen
May 26, 2010	Mary Marchand
June 18, 2010	David Joly
October 27, 2010	Joseph Kellogg

HUNTING/FISHING/LICENSES/STAMPS

5	Total License/Stamps Sold/Issued	\$170.00
	Town Fees Collected	\$ 2.50

DOG LICENSES FOR 2010:

8	Males	@ 8	\$ 64.00
10	Females	@ 8	\$ 80.00
100	Neutered Males /Spayed Females	@ 4	\$400.00
2	Kennels<4	@ 15	\$ 30.00
0	Kennels<10	@ 25	\$.00
3	Kennels>10	@ 50	\$150.00
123	Total Fees Collected		\$724.00

Town Fees Collected 123@ \$.75 \$92.35

TOWN CLERK FEES

11	Birth Certificates	\$ 55.00
3	Marriage Certificates	\$ 15.00
32	Death Certificates	\$ 160.00
3	Marriage Intentions	\$ 60.00
3	Burial Permits	\$ 60.00
5	Business Certificates	\$ 100.00
	Town Clerk Fees Collected	\$ 450.00

TOWN FEES

6	Zoning By-law Booklets	\$ 90.00
	Total Fees Collected	\$ 90.00

POPULATION (2011 CENSUS) 1747

TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS 1221

DEMOCRATS	233
REPUBLICANS	125
UNENROLLED	855
OTHER POLITICAL DESIGNATIONS	8

Dog licenses are available in March for the current year. All dogs six months and older must be licensed by June 30, 2011. A current rabies certificate is required. Per State law, any person whose dog is not licensed by June 30, 2011 is subject to fines and penalties.

The TOWN CLERK holds office hours Monday night from seven p.m. to eight p.m. and Tuesday nights from six p.m. to eight p.m. For additional hours, please call 413 203-3080. Services include providing copies of birth, death and marriage certificates; issuing marriage licenses, dog licenses, business licenses and special permit/variance applications; certifying voter registration; and handling tasks/questions regarding elections. The current month's calendars listing meeting dates and times for Town Boards are posted outside the Town Clerk's office and outside in the mailbox in front of the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Blakesley, Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

AS OF JUNE 30, 2010

	Real Estate Balances	Personal Property Balances	Motor Vehicle Balances
	as of June 30, 2010	as of June 30, 2010	as of June 30, 2010
2010	\$113,586.00	\$5,830.00	\$12,349.00
2009	\$46,583.00	\$2,132.00	\$2,071.00
2008	\$26,363.00	\$1,587.00	\$1,298.00
2007	\$31,580.00	\$779.00	\$2,313.00
Prior Years	\$22,615.00	\$10,826.00	\$12,798.00
TOTAL	\$240,727.00	\$21,154.00	\$30,829.00

All Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are due on the quarterly system, with due dates as follows:

- 1st quarter - August 1
- 2nd quarter - November 1
- 3rd quarter - February 1
- 4th quarter - May 1

To keep postage to a minimum, only two mailings will continue with two quarters in each mailing.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Blakesley, Tax Collector

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Balance July 1, 2009	\$1,074,021.46
Receipts	6,104,265.61
Disbursements	6,425,383.41
Balance June 30, 2010	752,903.66
Easthampton Savings Capital CD	43,428.74
Easthampton Savings Bank Collector	86,474.17
Easthampton Savings Sweep	101,777.24
Easthampton Savings Deputy Collector	4,937.60
Easthampton Savings Bank Charity	2,161.34
Easthampton Savings Bank Library Friends	1,282.28
MMDT General	61,950.02
MMDT Cultural Council	3,427.78
MMDT Septic Grant	78,521.51
Peoples United Checking	2,344.48
Peoples United Money Market	178,141.20
Peoples United Septic	2,635.27
Unibank	68,479.81
Unibank Online Collection	2,129.82
United	8,315.44
United Collector	71,569.97
MMDT Charity Trust	3,415.56
MMDT Cemetery Trust	3,737.44
MMDT Veterans Trust	2,571.77
MMDT Stabilization Fund	25,602.22
Balance June 30, 2010	\$752,903.66
Interest earned - \$7,822.99.	

Respectfully submitted

Margaret A. Parsons, Treasurer

Town of Westhampton
Combined Balance Sheet - All Funds and Account Groups
June 30, 2010

	Governmental Funds		Fiduciary Funds		Account Group	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	Totals
Assets						
Cash	\$ 353,190	\$ 211,771	\$ 144,711	\$ 43,231	\$ -	\$ 752,903
Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taxes Receivable:						
Real property	242,388					242,388
Personal property	21,153					21,153
Other Taxes	-					-
Tax liens	4,941					4,941
	268,482					268,482
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	88,865					88,865
	179,617					179,617
Other Receivables:						
Motor vehicle and other excise Commonwealth of Massachusetts	32,190					32,190
	32,190					32,190
Amounts to be Provided for Retirement of Long-Term Debt	-					1,105,000
Total Assets	\$ 564,997	\$ 211,771	\$ 144,711	\$ 43,231	\$ 1,105,000	\$ 2,069,710

Liabilities and Fund Balances

Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ 7,664				\$ 7,664
Deferred revenue -Property	174,676				174,676
Deferred revenue - Other Taxes	504				504
Deferred revenue - Tax Liens	4,941				4,941
Deferred revenue - MVE	31,686				31,686
Temporary Loan	100,000				100,000
Long-term debt					1,105,000
Total Liabilities	211,807	7,664	100,000	-	1,105,000
					1,424,471
Fund Balances:					
Reserved:					
Continuing Appropriations	15,200				15,200
Encumbrances	101,509				101,509
Expenditures	93,435				93,435
Unreserved:					
Designated	204,107				204,107
Undesignated	143,046				143,046
Total Fund Balances	353,190	204,107	44,711	43,231	-
					645,239
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 564,997	\$ 211,771	\$ 144,711	\$ 43,231	\$ 1,105,000
					\$ 2,069,710

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTING OFFICER

JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010

Cash on Hand July 1, 2009

General	995,026.05
Stabilization	33,686.41
Trust Funds	45,309.00
	1,074,021.46

RECEIPTS

TAXES

Property	3,303,100.61
In Lieu of Taxes	15,152.33
Motor Vehicle Excise	179,008.58
	3497261.52

COMM MASS

Local Aid/Lottery	127,674.00
Exemptions	9,160.00
Extended Polling hours	1,535.00
Chapter 70 Schools	412,014.00
Vocational Transportation	7,068.00
Charter School	2,058.00
Library Aid	1,907.48
Medicaid	8,733.70
	570150.18

GRANTS AND GIFTS

Dog Refund	379.02
Board of Health Emer Prep	600.00
COA – Federal	1,900.00
COA – State	3,500.00
Cultural Council	4,000.00
FEMA Storm Aid	5,697.20
Library Gifts	1,915.43
Library Project State Grant	692,882.48
Library Project Friends Gift	187,861.22
Library Trustees	35,980.11
Wetlands Conservation	330.00
	935045.46

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Licenses	399.00
Board of Assessors	9.00

Plumbing Fees	1,055.00
Electrical Fees	1,795.00
Sanitation Fees	305.00
Building Permits	6,506.80
Planning Board	325.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	140.00
Library	58.00
Library Bid Documents Forfeit	1,800.00
Mark & Clear	660.00
Town Clerk Fees	559.17
HCOG Electricity Refund	2,168.22
Medicare D Payment	2,119.92
Miscellaneous/refunds	3,592.45
	21492.56

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Gift	325.00
Fire Dept Grants	66452.00
HazMat	1,768.00
	68545.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motor Vehicle Fines	1715.00
Gun Permits	237.50
Reports	45.00
Police Detail Administration	310.30
	2307.80

BOARD OF HEALTH

Licenses & Permits	1,800.00
Septic Design	500.00
Perc Tests	1,200.00
Title V	675.00
Transfer Station Fees	43,216.25
	47391.25

REVOLVING FUNDS

Fire Dept.Revolving Fund	1,360.00
Septic Repayment	9,328.30
Cemetery Revolving Fund	7,859.00
	18547.30

SCHOOL FUNDS

Choice reimbursement	27,016.00
ARRA Funds	6,414.00
REAPS grant	23,523.00
Kindergarten Grant	10,512.00
Preschool	44,078.00
School Technology	2,000.00
Building Use	1,550.00

School Lunch	33,257.08	
Miscellaneous/refunds	1,377.31	149727.39
 HIGHWAY		
Miscellaneous	1,005.10	
Trench Permits	20.00	
Highway Gift	300.00	
MIIA Highway Grant	2,300.00	
Chapter 90	151,573.94	155199.04
 INTEREST		
On General Fund	6,967.85	
On Taxes	12,766.13	
On Charity Funds	20.34	
On Cemetery Funds	16.38	
On Library Trust	384.65	
On Veterans Trust	11.23	
On Stabilization	171.71	
On Septic Grant	234.40	
On Cultural Council	16.43	20589.12
 AGENCY		
Dog Licenses	538.25	
Fish & Wildlife Fees	199.85	
Tax Collector Fees	4,970.00	
Deputy Collector Fees	2,506.00	
Meals Tax	48.56	
Gun Permits	2,187.50	
Police Outside Detail	23,965.34	
Payroll Deductions	447,613.38	482028.88
 Temporary Borrowing-Library	100,000.00	100000.00
 Transfer From Trust	35,980.11	35980.11
 TOTAL RECEIPTS		6,104,265.61
 NON-APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES		
 TAX REFUNDS		
Property Tax	18188.15	
Motor Vehicle Excise	3290.53	21478.68
 AGENCY		
Dog Licenses	647.25	

Fish & Wildlife Fees	189.65
Tax Collector Fees	4975
Deputy Collector Fees	326
Meals Tax	48.56
Gun Permits	1587.50
Police Detail	23053.34
Payroll Deductions	469507.17
	500334.47

SCHOOL REVOLVING FUNDS & GRANTS

Early Literacy	217.96
REAPS grant	23,522.17
Stimulus grants	18,004.05
Kindergarten Grant	14,438.37
Preschool	38,367.81
School Choice	14,470.29
School Lunch	29,523.91
Summer Art	66.86
Technology Grant	2,000.00
School Gifts	549.00
	141160.42

SPECIAL REVOLVING FUNDS & GRANTS

Cemetery Revolving	6,156.79
Cultural Council	5,213.00
Council on Aging Federal	2,255.11
Council on Aging State	3,496.42
FEMA Grant	28,810.26
Fire Dept. Revolving	1,580.25
Fire Gift	300.00
Fire Grants	65,366.05
Hazmat	3,876.99
NIMS	187.57
Highway Gift	300.00
MIIA Highway Grant	2,300.00
Chapter 90 Highway Funds	98,488.69
Library Gifts	227.38
State Aid to Library	2,966.61
Public Health	549.82
Police Grants	6,244.90
Tree Gift	34.68
	228,354.52

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Library Project	1321885.89	1321885.89
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TRANSFER FROM TRUST	35980.11	35980.11
TOTAL Non-Appropriation		2,249,194.09

APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES	Budgeted	Spent
<u>General Government</u>		
Moderator	300.00	300.00
Selectboard Salary	3,650.00	3,650.00
Selectboard Expense	3,600.00	3,436.45
Administrative Assistant	15,119.00	14,898.00
Accounting Officer Salary	10,595.00	10,595.00
Accounting Officer Expense	2,100.00	2,099.22
Auditor Salary	300.00	300.00
Independent Audit	13,000.00	0.00
Salary Adjustments		6,274.94
Treasurer Salary	10,595.00	10,595.00
Treasurer Expense	4,150.00	3,894.39
Assessor Salary	7,525.00	7,525.00
Assessor Expense	24,125.00	17,940.61
Assessor Assistant	13,325.00	10,562.67
Assessor Secretary	1,614.00	1,614.00
Tax Collector Salary	7,795.00	7,795.00
Tax Collector Expense	10,278.00	9,578.54
Town Clerk Salary	6,894.00	6,894.00
Town Clerk Expense	3,000.00	3,130.08
Clerk Board of Registrars	50.00	50.00
Counsel Fees	8,000.00	3,031.95
Conservation Commission	265.00	140.00
Planning Board	200.00	112.50
Zoning Board of Appeals	600.00	238.52
Town Offices	13,720.00	11,911.77
Reserve Fund	10,000.00	
	170,800.00	136,567.64

<u>Protection of Persons & Property</u>		
Police Chief	19,923.00	19,923.00
Police Department	29,806.00	29,592.34
Fire Chief	6,304.00	6,304.00
Fire Department	28,419.00	28,413.14
Fire Rescue Truck	74,000.00	73,999.94
Emergency Management	308.00	308.00
Emergency Medical Services	7,330.00	6,540.02
Inspection Salary	14,250.00	10,465.15
Tree Warden	1,800.00	1,800.00

	182,140.00	177,345.59
<u>Education</u>		
School Committee	930.00	930.00
Elementary School	1,219,657.00	1,209,389.13
Hampshire Regional	1,016,300.00	1,016,255.00
Hampshire Regional Debt	79,125.00	79,125.00
School Choice	44,115.00	35,150.00
Charter School	21,766.00	11,320.00
Vocational	289,550.00	286,492.98
	2,671,443.00	2,638,662.11
<u>Public Works</u>		
Highway Salaries	180,400.00	178,459.22
Highway Department	150,556.00	134,654.05
Snow Removal	65,000.00	112,006.98
Cemetery	5,208.00	5,208.00
	401,164.00	430,328.25
<u>Human Services</u>		
Board of Health	78,384.00	71,892.57
Animal Inspector	667.00	667.00
Dog Officer	250.00	0.00
Council on Aging	1,200.00	1,176.28
Veterans	8,804.00	3,960.27
	89,305.00	77,696.12
<u>Culture & Recreation</u>		
Library	69,572.00	70,212.49
Historical Commission	1,200.00	1,068.90
Memorial Day	100.00	61.00
Cultural Council	75.00	65.48
	70,947.00	71,407.87
<u>Debt</u>		
Highway Bldg/ Firetruck	115,000.00	115,000.00
Interest	53,700.00	53,700.00
	168,700.00	168,700.00
<u>Intergovernmental</u>		
Hampshire Council of Governments	2,028.00	2,027.76
State Assessments	1,592.00	1,592.00
Pioneer Valley Planning Comm.	221.00	220.20
	3,841.00	3,839.96

<u>Unclassified</u>		
Hampshire County Retirement	102,829.00	102,829.00
Unemployment	13,000.00	0.00
Group Health Insurance	297,000.00	301,469.35
Medicare	18,000.00	16,894.18
Insurance & Bonds	60,000.00	50,449.25
	490,829.00	471,641.78
 Total Appropriation	 4249169.00	 4176189.32
 Grand Total Expenditures	 6,425,383.41	

Cash on Hand July 1, 2010

General	717576.67
Stabilization	25602.22
Trust Funds	9724.77
	\$752,903.66

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010

The Honorable Board of Selectmen
Westhampton Massachusetts

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010, which collectively comprise the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 30, 2010. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the

Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might, be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did riot identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about, whether the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or

other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended for the information and use of management, the Board of Selectmen, others within the entity, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Borgatti Harrison & Co.

Framingham Massachusetts
October 30, 2010

**TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS SCHEDULE
OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS JUNE 30, 2010**

A. Summary of Audit Results

1. The auditor's report expresses an unqualified opinion on the financial statements of the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts.
2. No deficiencies relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the report on compliance and on internal control over financial reporting based on an audit of the financial statements.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the Town of Westhampton, Massachusetts were disclosed during the audit.

B. Findings - Financial Statements Audit
None

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

As of January 1, 2010 members of the Finance Committee and their respective terms were:

Stacey Jenkins	2010
Mark Thornhill	2010
Owen Bowman	2010
Lee Craig	2011
Lisa Kennedy	2011
Maryanne Duggan	2011
Priscilla Flynn	2012
Ellice Gonzalez	2012
Margaret Parsons	2012
Kurt Heidinger	2012

Priscilla Flynn resigned effective at the June 2010 election as she was moving out of the area. We thank Priscilla for her thoughtful leadership of the Finance Committee in difficult times. Stacey Jenkins chose not to run and will be missed for her expertise with school budgets. No one stepped forward to replace either official, so the Committee had two vacancies throughout the rest of the year. Finance Committee is a great place to start if you are considering participating in town government. The Selectboard is authorized to appoint members when vacancies occur, so let them know if you are interested.

The budget process began in late winter with each of the town departments and services completing their budget requests for the 2011 fiscal year. Budget requests were \$215,000 more than our preliminary revenues would allow. After meeting with the school and town departments, the Committee recommended a balanced budget. The gap was closed by a combination of cuts to department budgets, capital exclusions for two capital items, and use of two thirds of the available free cash. The proposed budget of \$4,409.974 was approved by Annual Town Meeting with little change. Both capital exclusions were also approved. The

Finance Committee appreciates the cooperation of all the town departments in working with tight budgets to the best of their abilities.

During Fiscal Year 2010, the Finance Committee approved the following transfers from the Reserve Fund:

\$ 700 to the Town Clerk Expense for additional elections
\$2200 to set up a Tax Taking account for the Tax Collector
\$1150 to the Library Account for roof repair
\$5000 for design fees for an accessibility project for the Town Hall Annex

Finance Committee also recommended transfers from available funds at two special town meetings for the snow removal deficit, a fire grant match, group health insurance and to adjust salaries to a fiscal year basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Craig, Chair

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

In 2010, the Board of Assessors recorded 46 property transfers and approved the placing of 6 additional parcels under the protection of Chapters 61, 61A, and 61B. Also, the Board approved a total of 20 personal exemptions for veterans, elderly, blind persons or surviving spouses.

Westhampton's assessed values for Fiscal Year 2011 are

Real Estate	\$220,286,316
Personal Property	\$5,220,542
Exempt	\$27,629,100

The tax rate was set in December of 2010 for fiscal year 2011 at \$15.67 per \$1000 of value.

Sarah Challet has completed the education requirements set by the State of Massachusetts for Assessors and is now a Certified Assessor.

Assessor business can be transacted Monday & Wednesday mornings from 9-12 and the Board of Assessors meets Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex.

The Board of Assessors can be reached at 413-203-3082 or westhamptonassessors@comcast.net

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Morrey, Chair
Dolores Thornhill
Sarah Challet

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

I would consider 2010 as an average year for the amount of work that came before the ZBA, but it was busy compared to 2009. We held five Public Hearings for citizens seeking Special Permits or Variances. Also, the slow economy brought several requests for extensions to Special Permits and ruling requests, all of which were granted. One of the most interesting was a request for expansion of the Westhampton Woods senior housing complex. We have continued to work closely with Charles Miller, Building Inspector, and appreciate his good work and cooperation.

The Board this year is made up of Leo Aloisi, chair, Wayne Parks, Suzanne Wolf, John Kelsey, and Richard W. Tracy, clerk. We meet every month on the second Tuesday, at 7:00pm, at the

new office space in the Annex. There is room for three more associate members on our board and those slots should be filled. The intent is for the associates to meet with the board each month to be familiar with all the rules and regulations, then any time a member is absent one of the associates would fill in and keep the board at full strength. Also, if one of the members should leave the board, then one of the associates would move into that place. So, if you would be interested in working in this important area please write a letter to the Selectboard so they can know of your interest!

Public Hearings held this year:

Application 182 – March 9 – Special Permit request for #36 Pine Island Lake – granted

Application#184 – June 13 – Special Permit request for #31 Pine Island Lake – granted

Application #185 – August 13- Special Permit request for #41 Pine Island Lake –granted

Application #186 – October 20 – Comprehensive permit amendment for 13 Main Road –granted

Application #187 – December 14 - Special Permit request for #48 Stage Road – granted

Respectfully submitted,

Richard W. Tracy, Clerk

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

Due to the slow economy, the Planning Board reviewed and approved just a couple building lots this past year. The Board held a public hearing on the proposed Trailer Amendment to the Bylaws and it was returned to the Selectman with approval and ready for a Town Meeting vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark T. Schwallie, Chair

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The winter of 2009-2010 produced about 20 storms that required some form of treatment to our roads. Most of these storms were small snow events, many of which only produced one inch or two of snow and very little ice. The total amount spent on snow removal for the 2009-2010 winter was \$112,006.98.

Again this year, the Highway Department and WMECO worked together to remove 20+ hazardous trees throughout town. This program continues to be beneficial to both the town and WMECO. Also, brush and overhanging limbs were cut and burned on Southampton Road, North Road, Rte. 66 and Reservoir Road.

Annual Town Meeting 2010 voted to purchase a wood chipper for the department. The new chipper arrived in October 2010 and is a great addition to our equipment, as it will allow our tree and brush work to continue outside of burning season. It will be especially helpful with cleaning up storm damage anytime of year.



In the spring, all paved roads were swept, and during the summer, all catch basins were checked and cleaned as needed.

Again this year, beavers were very active at the Lyman Road and Rte. 66 sites. This means that we have to spend many hours monitoring the sites and unclogging culverts in order to keep these roads from flooding. A real pain!!

Parts of May and June were spent continuing our work on the new library project. This year, work consisted of installing a catch basin in the front of the building to prevent ponding, installing a new septic system, and installing a parking lot. We also loamed and seeded all disturbed areas on the north end of the building. All that remains for 2011 is putting down the top coat of blacktop and pavement markings in the parking lot.

Other projects: Two new cross culverts were installed this year, one at 97 Chesterfield Road and the other at 195 Reservoir Road. Also 3 existing culverts and catch basins were replaced due to deterioration, one each on North road, Burt Road, and Easthampton Road. Ditches and shoulders were cleaned at various locations throughout town where drainage problems occur. In December, the department helped move town offices into the new space at the old Library.

Chapter 90 work: The following roads were chip sealed using Chapter 90 funds:

Mine Road	entire length
Edwards Road	1000 feet
Tob Road	1000 feet
Kings Highway	1750 feet

A relatively new process called S.A.M. (Stress Absorbing Membrane) seal was tried on a one mile section of lower Southampton Road. It is basically the same process as our regular chip sealing. The big difference is in the liquid asphalt; it contains 20% rubber from recycled tires. In this case, there are approximately 1700 passenger car tires in that section of Southampton Road. The rubber adds both strength and flexibility to the asphalt, two things that the industry is constantly trying to increase. Also, it is an excellent way of recycling the many tires that are discarded each year. Other towns have had great success with this process and I believe it is the right treatment for this section of Southampton Road. However, as you may have noticed driving over it, there is a problem with loose stones. The contractor and I did an initial assessment of the problem last fall and we agree it appears to be an application problem. We will take another look this spring. They have assured me they will do whatever is necessary to make it right, even if it means redoing the entire length, at no cost to the town.

State Funded Projects (T.I.P.): As mentioned in last year's report, I was in hopes we could get a piece of the second round of stimulus money to mill and overlay Rte. 66, because this is a road that fits the criteria for stimulus money. Well, as we know, the second round of money never came. Therefore, at this time, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation has assigned the project an ID# 605815, and it is programmed into the Transportation Improvement Program (T.I.P.) list for Federal Fiscal Year 2012.

Again I want to thank Bill Jablonski, Jerry Ostrowski, and Mike Robbins for their hard work and dedication to the department.

Respectfully submitted,

David Blakesley
Highway Superintendent

REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Police Department is to provide professional, community oriented services to the residents of Westhampton. Over the past year, our officers proactively worked to keep the homes and streets of the town safe and secure. The department continues to work with the fire and highway departments to accomplish the overall task of providing public safety to members of this community.

This was certainly a perfect year for the town to be able to purchase a four wheel drive Ford Expedition. This new invaluable tool allowed us to respond to and patrol the town during the most inclement weather. This would not have been possible in the past especially in the light of the multiple snow events we have experienced over the 2010-2011 winter. The officers of your police department are grateful for the continued support of the town's residents.



Over the past year, our officers have been involved in emergency response preparedness at the both the elementary and high schools in cooperation with the Massachusetts State Police. Additionally, our dept has complied with the yearly legal update

and in-service Municipal Police Training Committee standards. We have also developed policies and procedures to better improve the overall operation of the organization. These standards are within the guidelines of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association.

As always, the department is open to constructive suggestions to improve service. Any input or comments can be emailed or call the office at 527-6154. The non-emergency line is checked at least twice per day. Please leave a message and your call will be returned. If you have an emergency, please call 911. This urgent call will go to the State Police Barracks in Northampton and a Westhampton officer will be paged out. In the event a town officer is not available, the Massachusetts State Police will respond to assist.

Firearms applications are accepted on the second Wednesday of each month. Pictures are no longer required to apply. The application may be downloaded off our website at WesthamptonPolice@Yahoo.com. This website also offers a variety of links and forms that may be useful.

Finally, Fred Thouin has once again retired from our police force. We thank him for his years of service and dedication to the town. Scott Johndrow also resigned this year and is thanked for his service to the Department.

The following is a synopsis of calls for service in 2010:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Emergency/paged out calls	132	232	330	289	282
To include:					
- Arrests/summons	4	10	10	13	7
- Disturbances	17	11	3	3	6
- Breaking Entry	6	5	3	4	2
- Larcenies	12	6	6	6	7
- Domestic Calls	5	6	6	4	4
-Assault	1	2	1	3	3

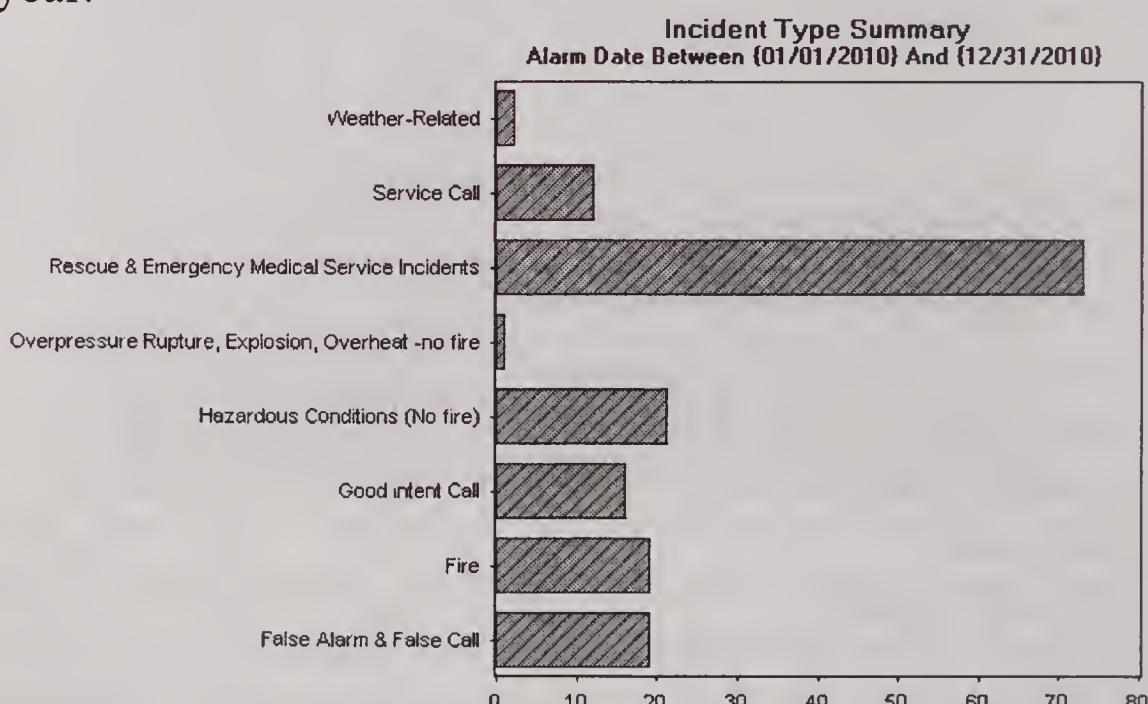
- alarms/911 hang up/ misdials	45	63	121	85	49
-Suspicious	24	18	19	15	12
Persons/Vehicles					
- Medical/Fire Assists	13	18	8	16	14
- Accidents	16	19	41	28	14
- Officer assistance	20	26	64	50	64
- Vandalism	5	21	6	7	11
Non emergency messages at the station					447

Respectfully,

D. White #671
Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Westhampton Fire Department had another busy year in 2010 providing emergency services to the community. The Department responded to one-hundred and sixty-three calls for service this year. These calls for service were for fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, motor vehicle accidents, utility wires down, residential fire alarm activations, and many more. The following graph gives a visual depiction of these emergency responses over the last year.



The department's fleet of apparatus consists of a 2004 Engine, a 1986 Engine, a 1990 garage truck cab and chassis with a milk truck body converted into a Water Tanker, a 2002 Brush Truck, and a 2009 Rescue Truck. All vehicles are checked by Department personnel on a weekly basis to ensure a state of operational readiness and reliability. In addition, the Town's Highway Department has been a tremendous asset to the Fire Department, completing all routine maintenance, fluid changes, and upkeep of the vehicles. The vehicle maintenance program, as established, helps to prolong the expected life-span of the vehicles and improve the safety during emergency responses. Again this year, we had both Engines professionally pump-tested to ensure adequate pump performance as determined by the manufacturers. These testing procedures are also reflected in the Department's Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating and meet the requirements set by National Standards pertaining to Fire Apparatus.

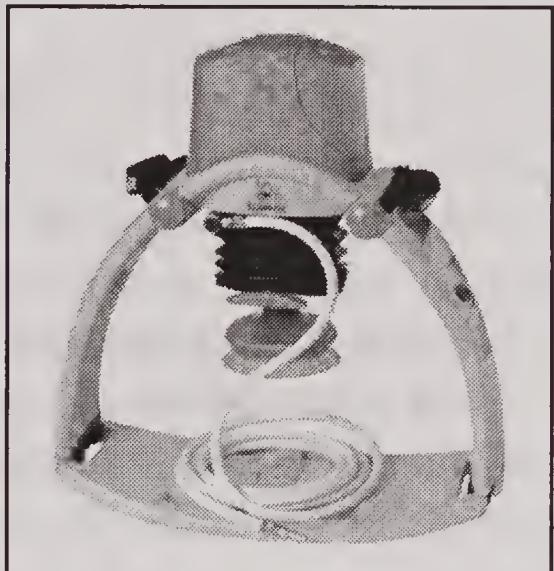
The Department also had all of the fire hose pressure tested to ensure adequate operational effectiveness. National Standards recommend that this is done once a year, and in addition, it is reflected in the ISO ratings that this testing procedure be done to minimize the insurance rates in Town. More important, to ensure the safety of all members utilizing fire hose during operational procedures, it is our responsibility that they are provided with equipment that is safe and functioning to the highest standards. The testing revealed that the Department did have fire hose in service that did not pass the required pressure rating. These were removed from service and replaced with some of the spare hose that was also tested and passed the requirements. These testing requirements demonstrated that this was a project that was needed and should be continued each year to help ensure that the integrity and operational capacity of the equipment is maintained. This year for the first time, we were also able to get all of our ground ladders tested to the National Standards, ensuring they could meet the performance requirements during emergency operations. All of these projects are critical to properly maintaining all of the equipment and ensuring the highest degree

of safety for our personnel utilizing these resources.

One of the greatest challenges faced by volunteer departments across the country is the recruitment and retention of department members. Greater demands on training, increasing call volumes and the balance of a full time job and family all require a delicate balance that can minimize the number of people interested in becoming a member. The Town of Westhampton has been very fortunate over the years, given the difficulties seen by other departments, to maintain this type of department and the high level of performance and services provided by these individuals. The department currently has thirty-five volunteer members and is always seeking new members to help serve the community. These volunteers are vital to keeping the overall cost for services down while at the same time performing a critical service needed in the community. Per capita, based on the 2010 census published in last year's Town Report, Westhampton residents pay approximately \$10.33 for fire protection each year. This would not be remotely possible if it wasn't for all of the dedicated volunteers in the Department. In continuing to build out our department, we were proud to welcome Matt Trombley to the Department as a new member. The Department is always looking for new volunteers and anyone who is ever interested is encouraged to call the Department and speak with the Chief.

The Department continues to be vigilant for any other funding sources available for Fire Departments. Over the course of the past four years, the Department has received over \$500,000 in competitive grants and other funding sources outside of our regular operating budget funded from the tax base. This amount is more than twenty-five times our annual operating budget. This past year we were successful in procuring a grant in the amount of \$156,000 to purchase equipment to improve our operational capabilities. Part of these funds went towards the purchase of a mobile air compressor and light tower. This unit enables our personnel to replenish their self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) bottles after use. Prior to our Department receiving this, all of the bottles had to be taken out of service and filled in a

neighboring community. We were also able to purchase some much needed emergency medical equipment to outfit the rescue truck for emergency responses. Some of this equipment included a new cardiac monitor and an automated CPR machine.



Mobile Air Trailer / Light Tower Automated CPR Machine

The Department was also able to install a fire detection system at the Public Safety Complex this year with grant funds as well. The concern has always been that if there ever is a fire at that location no one would be aware of it until it was too late. The Town has too much valuable equipment and vehicles at that location, over one million dollars, to not have it monitored and at least give personnel the opportunity to save as much as possible for the Town in the unlikely case that there ever were a fire at the Public Safety Complex.

The Department was also proud to receive another grant in the amount of \$4,000 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to help upgrade our equipment and supplies to respond to wildfires and brush fires. These funds allowed us to replace all of our forestry hose and buy new packs to carry water into remote areas in the woods that may be inaccessible with any vehicles. The Firefighters Association has provided the funds to help meet the matching amount for this State grant and this again will help provide vital resources needed to upgrade the current equipment being used.

There are a number of capital projects that the Fire Department is going to need input and support on from the community in the immediate future. The largest of these is a need for a new Public Safety Complex to meet the growing demands of the community. The current facility is reaching sixty years old and no longer is able to accommodate the demands placed on the Public Safety Services (Police, Fire, EMS, and Emergency Management). In addition, one of the Fire Engines is twenty-four years old and has an expected life span of twenty-five years. However, no new engine available will fit in the current facility given the current parameters. All of these items were also forwarded to the Town Capital Improvements Committee with emphasis placed on a new building. We will continue to explore all available funding options to minimize the financial impact on the community, but the conversation needs to continue in order to plan and prepare for vehicles and equipment for the next ten to twenty-five years and a facility that will continue to meet the service demands for the next fifty plus years.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the personnel at the Department for their continued support and dedication to the Town and the Department. It continues to be an absolute pleasure and honor to work for all of them and be part of an organization that cares so much about their community. The members of the Westhampton Fire Department continue to do much more than respond to emergencies. Throughout the years, they continue to clean residents chimneys each fall, hang the flags on the utility poles in the center of town when needed, get involved in community sponsored events such as the Halloween parade, fill residents swimming pools and the water tanks at the Town Cemetery, install smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, and put up house numbers for residences to help emergency responders find the proper location and decrease response times. The Westhampton Fire Department is one of the few healthy and vigorous volunteer departments left in the region, and all of the members are very dedicated and proud to serve the residents and community.

Most importantly, I'd like to thank my wife, Ashleigh, and two daughters, Payton and Clare, who continue to be supportive and understanding for the times I'm away for Department trainings, meetings, or emergency responses. I couldn't do it without all of their help.

Everyone have a safe and healthy year!

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher W. Norris
Fire Chief/Emergency
Manager

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

This has been a transitional year for the Board of Health. We welcome two new members to the Board, Mary Montague and Bob Turner, and a part time health agent, Josh Mathieu. We continue to be responsible for the enforcement of the State Sanitary Code, including inspections of food establishments, school kitchens, campgrounds, housing complaints, septic systems, solid waste and disease surveillance. The Board wishes to thank Ted Brooks for his help ensuring our residents' septic systems are properly installed.

The Board continues to oversee operations at our transfer station, with the help of our attendant John Guimond, the DPW and Hilltown Resource Management Coalition.

Board members continue to be involved with our state mandated emergency planning partner, the Hampshire Emergency Preparedness Coalition. The last of FEMA directed dollars responsible for the start up of our Coalition will be used up this year and therefore, the Coalition's future activity level is uncertain.

The Board has also been active in efforts to obtain federal funding for the establishment of a Regional Health District in Hampshire County.

Submitted Respectfully,

Tom Martin, Chair

Mary Montague

Bob Turner

REPORT OF THE HILLCITY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

The HRMC is a unique, regional municipally funded organization which was created in 1989 by concerned residents in the towns of Ashfield, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington.

Since 1989 the HRMC has assisted its member Towns with the following efforts:

- Local and regional Recycling and Solid Waste Management Programs
- Promote Waste Reduction and Green House Gas Reduction Programs
- Promote recycling, waste reduction and sustainability outreach programs
- Support Development of Potential Wind and Solar Power Projects in the HRMC region
- Assist towns with reducing their municipal Carbon Footprints

Last Year the HRMC Helped all its Member Towns recycle 2070 tons of materials, saving 6514 tons of green house gas emissions, creating \$165,938 in indirect disposal costs savings and earning the Towns over \$42,800 in recycling revenue.

Currently the HRMC directly assists your Town in the following ways;

- 1) Assists local officials with the cost efficient management of the Towns waste management, recycling and sustainability programs.
- 2) Operate the regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Paint Recycling, Electronics Recycling programs and Mercury Collection Programs to help keep toxic materials out of our local environment.
- 3) Obtain grants to assist the HRMC and your Town with recycling and sustainability.
- 4) Work on “rural” sustainability issues (such as wind and solar power) including the Massachusetts “Green Communities Program” on behalf of member Towns.

We look forward to continuing to help you and your Town protect the environment, become more sustainable and save money. Please call us at (413) 268 - 3845 or email us any time at hrmc@crocker.com with your questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Weiss
Administrator, HRMC

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The annual farm animal census was conducted with the following results:

Dairy Cattle	255
Beef Cattle	50
Steers	4
Horses	120
Donkeys	6
Sheep	21
Goats	79
Swine	1
Alpaca	4
Chickens	307
Turkeys	3
Water Fowl	29
Peafowl	19

In addition, one ten day and one six month quarantine were issued; both with negative results. Residents are again reminded to keep their pets rabies vaccinations up to date. Rabies is an ongoing concern and vaccinated pets are our easiest and best protection for the human population.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard I. Tracy
Animal Health Inspector

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY CARETAKER

Despite the hot, dry summer in 2010, work remained very steady at the Westhampton Center Cemetery. In addition to the usual work of brush cutting around the perimeter and propping up old headstones that had fallen over, there was an increase in orders

for foundations for new monuments. Also improvements continued along the entrance way to the cemetery due to the 2008 South Road and Cemetery Road construction.

Altogether in 2010 there were:

6 traditional burials

8 cremations

10 new monument foundations installed

5 new lots acquired

Several improvements were made to the cemetery garage in 2010. A new overhead door was installed for one of the two doorways. Also electrical service was brought to the garage allowing for a lighted work area and the ability to use power tools and equipment.

The cemetery received a monetary donation in 2010 from Lori Myers in memory of her parents, Ralph and Ethel Challet. The money was used to purchase a 25 foot telescoping flagpole and a solar light that will illuminate the flag during darkness. The flagpole was erected near the tool shed along with a marker commemorating the donation. The light has not arrived yet, but is expected in the spring of 2011.

Work is expected to continue in 2011 on the new expansion on the north side of the cemetery grounds. Further excavation is needed in order to have the proper slope of the hillside.

I would like to remind everyone that the cemetery is closed to burials and traffic during the winter months from December 1 until March 31. Also residents who have been in town at least five years are entitled to two free burial plots. I can be reached by phone at 527-1678.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles P. "Karl" Norris
Cemetery Caretaker

REPORT OF THE VETERANS' AGENT

Our Veterans and their dependents were consulted and continually given assistance in filing claims for benefits under the provision of Ch. 115, 108 CMR, State of Massachusetts. Veterans' Services also assisted Veterans and their families for Death Benefits, VA claims and Social Security.

In the year 2010, the VA has put tremendous efforts in providing immediate care for veterans that may have TBI, Traumatic Brain Injuries, and PTSD, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

We are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, as always to help our deserving veterans and their families with their needs.

God Bless America!

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Messier
Director of Veterans' Services

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Members: Steve Holt, (chair), Tom Jenkins, Brad Morse, Fred Morrison, Bob LaPalme, (secretary)

Under The Wetlands Protection Act, eight "interests" are protected by town conservation commissions across the state. Those commissions process over ten thousand applications every year for permits to do work in and near wetlands, floodplains, banks, riverfront areas, beaches and surface waters, (source: Mass. Assn. of Conservation Commissions 2006).

The eight important public values subject to protection referred to

as “interests” are 1. Protection of public and private water supply 2. protection of groundwater supply 3. flood control 4. storm damage prevention 5. prevention of pollution 6. protection of land containing shellfish 7. protection of fisheries 8. protection of wildlife habitat.

What follows is a brief summary of WCC activities for year 2010:

Process and procedural changes this year;

1. WCC voted unanimously to support the land acquisition proposal (Skibiski property), that would potentially lead to protected land in Westhampton bordering currently protected land in the Mineral hills area of Northampton.
2. WCC provided a status update of the automotive parts property formerly known as “Jaws”, this at the request of the town Selectboard.
3. The Commission completed the following actions:

Site visits	10
Determination	5
Public hearing	8
Request for Determination	6
RDA revision	1
Notice of Intent (process)	1
Order of conditions	1
Certificate of compliance	1
Violation concern	2
Emergency action agricultural field flood damage repair	
Emergency septic work	

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Holt, Commission Chair
Bob LaPalme, Secretary

REPORT OF THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Committee members this year were Kate Parsons, David Majercik, Ellen Bartos, and Rick Tracy. We organized with Rick Tracy as Chair and Ellen Bartos as Secretary. The Committee met at least once a month and met almost weekly for a time in the summer. Our main focus has been to complete the required 5 year update for the Open Space Plan. We put together a survey in the spring and, with the help of Sherry Long, we handed out over 200 copies at the transfer station, of which nearly half were returned and compiled. We also held a public forum to gather input, following the town meeting on June 21.

In early spring, we were contacted by Wayne Feiden, the Northampton planning director, about a possible joint purchase of a parcel that straddles the Northampton/Westhampton town line near Turkey Hill Road in Northampton. After meeting with the Selectboard and the Conservation Commission, we decided to pursue this option. In support of this effort, we were able to submit a draft update of the Open Space Plan in early July, and, with Wayne Feiden's help, applied for a LAND (Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity) Grant to finance the purchase. We did not receive this grant, but are pursuing others. We did receive conditional approval from the state for our draft update with a list of items that need further work.

In November, we started working with the Valley Land Fund in our fund raising efforts. Also, Sheila Marks has volunteered to work on direct fund raising and has made good progress towards the amount we need.

Going into the new year, we continue to work on completing the update of the Open Space Plan and hope to have funding in place to go forward with the purchase of the Skibiski parcel.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard I. Tracy, Chair

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

There were 69 building permits, 10 earth removal permits, and 3 annual inspections completed in 2010. \$8489.10 was collected in fees for projects valued at \$1,345,141.00 including public projects.

Values are rounded.

Permit Classification	Project Value	No.
Additions	79,000	3
Annual Inspections	0	3
Barns/Sheds	29,500	8
Cottage Replacement	340,886	1
Decks/Porches	22,000	5
Earth Removal	0	10
Insulation/Weatherization	18,706	8
Masonry Heater/Chimneys	24,850	3
Pellet/Wood Stoves	14,323	6
Pools	27,031	4
Renovations	140,075	9
Repairs	6,600	4
Reroof	41,410	5
Siding	26,000	3
Single Family Residence	495,554	2
Solar	27,450	2
Windows/Doors	51,756	5

Note:

Annual Inspection request are the responsibility of the building owner/manager.

Building permits are required for nearly every project.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Miller
Building Inspector

REPORT OF THE SANITATION INSPECTOR

In 2010, there were six systems completed. Five systems were upgrades, and one was a new system. As of January 1, 2011, there are also systems that were started in 2010, but have not been totally completed. They will be reflected in the 2011 report. 2010 was a very quiet year.

Respectfully submitted,

Stillman G. Brooks
Sanitation Inspector
527-4841

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

During the year 2010, the Plumbing Inspector's office received twenty-four permit applications. Twelve were for plumbing work and twelve were for gas inspections. There was one new home and fourteen remodeling jobs.

A total of \$1,255 was collected for permits and fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Pichette

REPORT OF THE WIRING INSPECTOR

The number of electrical permits for 2010 was 31, including one new home. There was one permit for the old town library which no fee was assessed.

The fees collected totaled \$980.00

Respectfully submitted,

John Lyons

REPORT OF THE S.A.L.T. TRIAD

We are a volunteer council in a three-way partnership with law enforcement (Westhampton Police, Hampshire County Sheriff, Northwestern District Attorney) and area support/protective services. Present members are Connie Dragon, Tony Caggiano, Don Graham, Chuck Horn, David Majercik, Gerry & Charlie Ognibene, and Ginny Curtis.

FOCUS of OUR MISSION

- Safety and well being of Westhampton's seniors
- Improving communication and relationships between law enforcement and seniors
- Providing information, emergency devices, and support/protective services

COMPLETED PROJECTS

"Special Wishes" – a 10 section guide putting personal affairs in order.

- wills - power of attorney - health care proxies
- comfort care/DNR
- your family's personal, legal, financial contacts
- locations of documents, insurance policies, contracts, etc.

"Westhampton: Preparing for Emergencies & Disasters" – A manual re. survival kits, procedures, safety recommendations, home safety, and proper planning

"File of Life" - Your critical information to put on your fridge, in your wallet and car to assist emergency care workers in life threatening situations

9-1-1 Cell Phones - FREE emergency 9-1-1 cell phones for seniors

"Where to Get Help" - phone listings re. Social Security Fraud, ID theft reports, at-home housework help, fuel assistance, transportation for seniors, "Do Not Call Registry", Senior Legal Services, and other support/ protective services

PRESENT PROJECTS

"Prescription/ Medication Take-Back Event"- April 30, 2011 assist law enforcement officials in sponsoring area event

Fund Raising: A May Raffle for SALT Survey printing and mailing **2011 Survey for Westhampton Adults 55 and Older** – a needs assessment of our growing senior population. To be able to sponsor effective projects in our community, we have to know the specific short/ long term needs for the safety, informational and supportive needs of varying age groups.

Bell Tower Articles - legislation, fraud protection, safety reminders & senior issues

FUTURE PROJECTS

2011 Survey for Westhampton Adults 55+ - prioritize the needs assessments

Paper Shredding Day Event on May 21, 2011 - assist District Attorney's office

Welcome Package - Happy 60th Birthday! - Updating all contents for you

We welcome your participation, concerns, humor, and knowledge to help us reach our goals to provide reliable networking & services for your safety & future planning.

whsaltcouncil@comcast.net 413-529-9873 Fax: 413-203-3049

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Curtis, Chairman

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The focus of the Westhampton Council on Aging is to enhance the quality of life for all Westhampton residents who are age 60 and over and to provide them a variety of services and activities.

The Council on Aging Board (COA) consists of seven members with the memberships rotating when a member has served a three year term. The Selectboard appoints board members who are nominated by residents and current board members. The applicant then submits a letter to the Selectboard that they are interested. The COA board meets at Westhampton Woods, as a planning group, on the last Friday of the month at 1:30 p.m. with no meeting in July. The meeting is open to all who would like to attend.

The current Council on Aging board members:

TERM ENDING JUNE 2011.....Charles Ognibene, Ann Tracy and Liz Anderson

TERM ENDING JUNE 2012.....Sally Lawton & Gale Wright

TERM ENDING JUNE 2013.....Jean Webster & Pat Warren

FUNDINGFiscal Year Funding comes from the following sources:

State Grant - The State Office of Elder Affairs

Town of Westhampton

Federal Grant - Highland Valley Elder Service Oct – Sept.

The COA served 347 individuals age 60 and over and distributed 240 COA Newsletters each quarter. The COA wishes to thank the volunteers who provide the following services: Board Members and Officers, S.A.L.T/Triad, Program co-chairman, H-E-N (Helping Elders in Need) Program, Transportation Dispatcher,

Newsletter Mailings, and Luncheon Planning. Others who give of their time to – send get-well, birthday and sympathy cards, gifts that are made, flowers and birthday cupcakes for senior's birthdays, photographers for the newsletters and computer maintenance. Thanks to Friends of COA, and those who are successful in raising funds by organizing the Fall Festival pie sale. A huge thank you to those of you who provide much needed help, without being asked, at our monthly meetings and other times.

In addition to the above, the Town of Westhampton has a contract with the Franklin Regional Transportation Association to pay mileage to drivers who offer transportation to seniors for appointments and shopping with the drivers donating their time. A Flu Clinic was held on October 22, this year with 62 seniors attending. Seniors attend exercise classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at the Town Hall at 8:00 a.m. The COA chairman and the treasurer attend bi-monthly meetings as members of the seven town of the Hilltown Consortium; Liz was appointed by the Selectboard to serve on the Westhampton Woods Board of Directors.

The Council on Aging lacks a senior center, and is located in the chairman's home at 12 South Road. You may call Liz at 413 527-0142 for information. Training has been taken to offer fuel assistance and food stamps.

The year 2010 has been another active year. All Westhampton seniors are invited to join us for home cooked meals at our Potluck Luncheon on the first Thursday of the month. We have an average of 42 members attending each month; with no meeting held in August. Before the luncheon, blood pressures are taken, and birthday cards are signed. Following the luncheon a program is given featuring entertaining, educational or informative programs. This includes the summer Volunteer Recognition Picnic in July this year and held at Florence Civic Center with the meal catered. Tad and Michelle Witowski entertained us with vintage musical recordings on some of his

collections of wind-up Victrola's. We have 35 volunteers serving on 12 committees doing 53 jobs. The intergenerational meeting hosted the 4th grade and their grandparents for lunch and program. We also offered a "Coffee Break" on "Drug Interactions: How Do They Affect You?" by a speaker from Cooley Dickinson Hospital. As always we are very grateful for the interest and support we receive from the church and from town and school officials.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Anderson, chairman

Board Members:

Jean Webster, co-chairman
Ann Tracy, treasurer
Sally Lawton, secretary
Charles Ognibene
Pat Warren
Gale Wright

REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Westhampton Cultural Council was allotted \$3870 (down from last year) by the State Council to fund grant applications in FY11. \$15 was allotted for expenses, so we were able to grant \$3855. We received 28 grants in total and approved 13.

The following applications were approved for FY11:

- Patricia Lee Lewis for the Westhampton Library, Library Writer in Residence Program, \$480.
- Friends of the Westhampton Library, Animal World Experience, \$365
- Friends of the Westhampton Library, Secret World of Bubbles, \$475

- Friends of the Westhampton Library, Drum to the Beat, \$450
- Friends of the Williamsburg Library, Hilltown Sunday Music Series, \$60
- HRHS Middle School-Green Team, Frank Grindrod, Native Ways, Musuem that Comes to You, \$300.
- Hampshire Regional School PTSO, Hampshire Regional Musical, \$250
- Westhampton Elementary School, Ed Cope, Reading is Magic, \$325
- Council on Aging, Tim Van Egmond, Hats off to Volunteers, \$400.
- Grown in Westhampton, Blanche Derby, Eat Local the Wild Way: a Weed Walk and Taste, \$250
- Hilltown 6 Pottery Tour, Mark Shapiro, Pottery Demonstrations/Guest Artists, \$200
- Ellen Clegg, Found Sounds: Together in Rhythm, \$250
- Hilltown CDC, Hilltown Spring Festival, \$50

We have added two new members to the Westhampton Cultural Council. The Council tries to present a well-balanced distribution of projects/arts/music/theatre in order to benefit all residents of Westhampton. Please contact the Selectboard and Julie Held if you wish to be appointed to the Council and have any interest in chairing or co-chairing next year, or with any ideas for future grants and rewards.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Held, Chair
 Jacqui LaFrance
 Jackie Brodeur
 John Zimmerman
 Paula Murphy

Robbie Heidinger
 Sarah Mulvehill
 Ellice Brandow
 Gale Wright
 Renee Schultz

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In January, Freeman Scott died and we lost a wonderful member of our Historical Commission. Freeman was always a joy to be with, and we loved his stories of family or old time life in general. We have missed him and appreciate the times we had together. Fortunately, Marion Allen expressed an interest and she was appointed to the Commission by the Selectboard, and we have enjoyed having her aboard.

The Commission is now made up of Dan Krug, Barbara Fuller, Marion Allen, Steve Brooks, and Richard W. Tracy. We meet every third Tuesday at 7:00pm, and anyone is welcome to attend. This year we met every time at the museum and were able to heat the new room enough, even during the winter time, with a couple space heaters. Steve is working on a permanent heater that will make it even better. We hope this ability will allow us to become more efficient with our time, and be able to get more accomplished. Barbara Pelissier is at most of our meetings, representing the Historical Society, and we are greatly indebted to her for her knowledge and enthusiasm and all she does. Thank you Barbara!

We had applied for a grant from the Massachusetts Humanities which would have brought professional help in analyzing our collection and starting a better cataloging, and preservation system. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in this application, and will have to continue seeking such help. Along that line, this is one of the areas we could use more skilled people, so if that is an area where you have expertise, and would like to work with the Historical Commission, we would love to hear from you. There has been a “Friends of the Westhampton Blacksmith Shop Museum” organization for many years, and we are trying to breathe new life into that organization. It is important to study and save the history of our town and it is a lot of fun as well. We hope you will join the “Friends” group, or even request to be on the Commission with us.

The museum is open every Sunday, between Memorial Day and the Fall Festival, from 2 to 4pm, and on other occasions by appointment. In 2010 we were fortunate to have the services of Scott Palmer, a blacksmith, on display almost all of the Sundays. His presence brought new people to visit, and made for very interesting days. This coming year, 2011, we have planned a big Chicken Barbeque for July 16th. We hope to raise funds for our work, but even more to generate interest and bring excitement to more of our townspeople. Mark your calendar- we hope to see you there for a great time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard W. Tracy, Chairman

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The major library event in 2010 was the realization of a long-held dream of a new, modern, and enlarged library in the center of our town. On a fine, bright, fall day, Sunday October 17, hundreds of townspeople, along with a number of state and local officials, celebrated the Grand Opening of the Westhampton Public Library on the grounds of the new library. This was followed by a memorable first view of the facility for all those in attendance. The residents of Westhampton, including the Board of Trustees, thanked the Friends of the Westhampton Public Library, the many financial donors, the library staff and volunteers, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the Library Building Committee, the many committees and sub-committees, and the donors of their time, labor, and materials that made it all possible. Now it is time for us and future patrons to enjoy the benefits of a generation's vision.

The library, now officially the Westhampton Public Library, is overseen by an elected six-member Board of Trustees. The Trustees meet in the library on the second Thursday of each

month at 7:00 p.m.. Their duties include setting and implementing policy, overseeing finances and the physical plant, supervising and evaluating the library director, and addressing planning and development issues.

The day-to-day business of the library includes its many patrons' use of it as a resource for printed books, audio books, music CDs, videos, periodicals, inter-library loans, and special programs such as the Summer Reading Program for children. In addition, a number of groups have been using the new building as a Community Center, holding regular meetings in the library: the Trustees, Friends of the Library, Library Building Committee, Council on Aging, Garden Tour Committee, the Conservation Commission, the Open Space Committee, and a 4-H Club. No doubt other groups will take advantage of the excellent facilities the new library now affords.

The library is open five days a week (it was closed for three weeks during the transition from the old building to the new one). It is staffed by a full time, qualified, and certified director, Carolyn Keating, who has overseen library operations with a high degree of professionalism for the past 20 years, and a very able staff librarian, Hilary Nolan. Hilary is responsible for the preschool story times and other children's programming as well as her general library duties. The use of the library remains strong: the circulation is high, and there is a continued increase in the use of the popular inter-library loan systems, including the Internet based C/WMARS. By the close of 2010, the library had 950 cardholders and had circulated 23,456 items, which included 5,061 items delivered to other system libraries. We received 3,163 items from other libraries for our patrons. Thirty-five programs were offered in 2010 (in the former library and new building) attracting 443 attendees. The new library building has already provided opportunities for an expanded schedule of community activities held primarily in the Community Room: four times per month the library hosts Scrabble games, there is a weekly tween writing group, there are movie nights, Peter Sokolowski of Merriam-Webster gave a presentation, there

was an H.R.H.S. choral concert, and town residents have organized a monthly Grown in Westhampton discussion series. More is to come including monthly area artist's exhibitions featured in the Community Room, continued Fall Festivals on the library grounds, family and children's events.

The Trustees' budget request for the coming fiscal year reflects what we believe to be the minimum needed for us to continue to provide quality services for our library and to maintain our M.B.L.C. certification.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray V. Giordano, Chair
Lynn Cooper, Treasurer
Sarah K. Mulvehill, Secretary
Andrea Belanger
Celeste Whiting
Carol McMurrich
Board of Trustees

REPORT OF LIBRARY FUNDS

Library funds in the custody of the Town Treasurer at the beginning of fiscal year 2010 were as follows:

Gift accounts:	\$11,268.68
Capital account	\$35,595.46

During fiscal year 2010, gifts in the amount of \$1,915.43 were received from the Friends of the Library, Sage Books, and Envirosmart. Expenditures to support the library totaled \$227.38, leaving a balance in the gift accounts of \$12,956.73 at the end of the fiscal year.

Interest on the capital account totaled \$384.65, making a total of \$35,980.11, which was transferred to the Library Project during fiscal year 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Parsons
Town Treasurer

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE

Summary: During 2010, the new Westhampton Public Library was transformed from plans on paper to a beautiful operating library. The project, which was funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, private donations by over 400 families, individuals, businesses and organizations and the proceeds from the sale of the Center School, was completed within budget.

Year in Review

Five Star Building Corp. of Easthampton, Massachusetts began the construction of the new library in August 2009. By early January 2010, the foundation was complete, the walls framed and the roof trusses were being hoisted into place. Over the course of the winter, the windows and exterior doors were installed, the roof was shingled, and the entire building was insulated. Inside, workers installed plumbing, wiring and ductwork. By spring, the sheetrock was hung, taped and finished, and ready to be painted. Dozens of volunteers spent hundreds of hours priming and painting the ceilings, walls, windows, doors and trim throughout the building.

By May, with the finish coats done, the next phases of the project were underway. Outside, the town's highway department graded and paved the parking lot and installed a new septic system. In the fields behind the library, crews of volunteers, with the help of

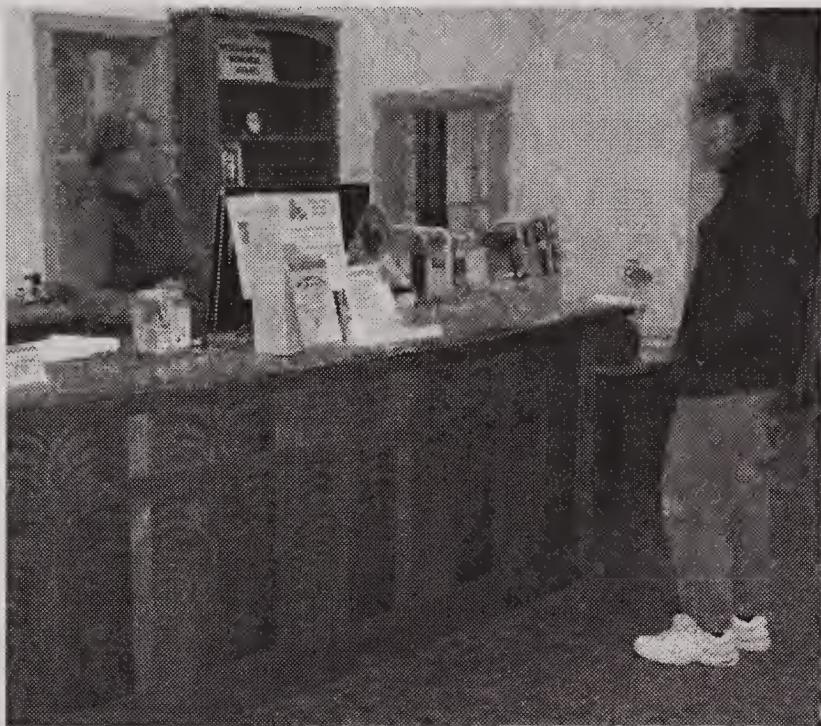
Dave Loven, built stone retaining walls and terraces. The cupola was created by a dedicated team of volunteers up at Douglas Thayer's shop and topped by an owl weathervane made entirely from recycled stainless steel.



On the inside of the building, the hardwood floors (birch and sugar maple from western Massachusetts) were installed and the original 1814 wide pine boards were sanded and refinished. In June the circulation desk and work counter were delivered. Made of cherry from Westhampton and Goshen, MA, both pieces were custom-designed and built by the New England School of Architecture in Easthampton for the cost of the materials. Soapstone from Vermont and schist from Ashfield form the countertops.

During the winter, the Library Building Committee was busy selecting shelving and furniture for the library's interior. The shelving was manufactured in Massachusetts and the wood end panels were made in New Hampshire. By working closely with the company, the committee was able to have the design and color match the circulation desk, which helps bring an aesthetic cohesiveness to the library. The committee was able to realize large savings by purchasing reconditioned furniture and many other items (the director's desk, the table and chairs in the Judd

Reading Room, the small tables in the Adult Stacks) from Conklin Office Furniture in Holyoke. The items were delivered in late summer, around the same time as the shelving.



In late August, the Friends organized a Book Brigade and more than 100 volunteers, ranging from age 3 to 83, passed books, hand-to-hand, from the old library to the new one. The following week, crews of volunteers moved the entire library collection from the former library to the new building, where others were waiting to shelve them. Meanwhile, Douglas Thayer Design of Westhampton was busy at his shop building all of the library's study tables, the counter tops in the main reception area and the book cases that showcase new materials.

The library had a soft opening in mid-September and on October 17, 2010, the official grand opening was held. Coinciding with the Fall Festival, the grand opening was celebrated with music, speeches and (of course!) cake! Hundreds of people toured the library that day.

The library project is truly a manifestation of the spirit of Westhampton and would not have been possible without the generosity and hard work of hundreds of folks.

A special "Thank You" goes to our librarians, the Library Trustees, the Friends of the Westhampton Library, the Library Building Committee, the Capital Campaign Leadership

Committee, Mark Sullivan and Mike Diggins of D.A. Sullivan, and all of volunteers who gave thousands of hours of time to help build Westhampton's new public library.

Other noteworthy facts:

- The Westhampton Public Library project is noted state-wide for its perseverance and the project's fundraising efforts have received national recognition.
- In 2011 the library is expected to be LEED certified and have photovoltaic solar panels installed.
- The community room is used regularly for programming, group meetings and socializing. It also will be used as a gallery for artists to display their work.
- The surrounding land is being used for pick-up games, concerts, festivals and provides scenic views of the hills to the east.
- The former library has been remodeled and now provides better office, storage and meeting space for our community's town boards and elected officials.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Dowling, Chairman
Laurie Sanders, Secretary
Library Building Committee

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent Craig Jurgensen reports that the schools in the Hampshire Regional School District have had a productive and reaffirming year while also addressing the challenges facing public schools and teachers. The collaboration and coordination between and among the District's five schools has been reaffirmed and strengthened in order to provide quality instructional and extra-curricular programs, while maintaining safe, positive and productive learning environments for all students. Our responsibility is to teach students to read, write, speak well, and calculate as we also embrace our increasing

responsibility to address “21st Century Learning Skills” including critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration paired with an integration of emerging technologies. The following report highlights some of the programs, events, and activities undertaken to promote excellence in achievement and to support our students’ success as life-long learners and responsible participants in our society.

On September 1, 2010, the staff of the Hampshire Regional Schools attended the annual Convocation Day at Hampshire Regional High School. The highlight of the meeting, following the introduction of new staff and acknowledgement of milestone years of service, was “Relating to Teaching and Each Other”. I asked seven educators to speak about their “. . . teaching in its broadest and narrowest context – to tell your personal story and how it relates to teachers, children, students, history, the future, and how it motivates you to do the best you can do. . . to think in terms of our district and connections between communities, teaching, relationships, and your life. . . stressing the importance of teaching and getting ready to begin a new year.” The results were amazing. Reaction ranged from “outstanding” to “fabulous – the energizing I needed to start the year.” The speakers were: Mr. William E. Collins, Principal at Southampton’s Norris Elementary School; Ms. Jenna Luce, 3rd grade teacher, Chesterfield-Goshen Regional and her mother, Ms. Rita Luce, Kindergarten teacher, Helen E. James School, Williamsburg; Mr. John Bye, 3rd grade teacher, Westhampton Elementary School; Ms. Jenny Livingstone, Math Teacher, Hampshire Regional High School, (HRSD alumni), and Mr. Chris Butler, Social Studies Teacher, Hampshire Regional High School. Dr. Donna Harlan, retired School Superintendent, Director of DESE’s Berkshire “District and School Assistance Center” tied all of the stories together with a marvelous synthesis of ideas and emotions anchored to her own early teaching experience in Texas.

Much attention was given to the federal initiative labeled “Race To The Top” during 2010. RTTT is focused on educational reform in the areas of: educator effectiveness, curriculum and

instruction, school turnaround, college and career readiness, and data systems and infrastructure. Our schools, particularly Hampshire Regional High School and Chesterfield-Goshen Elementary, will be actively involved in RTTT activities including those related to implementation of a statewide educator evaluation framework, aligning our curriculum to the Common Core State Standards and Massachusetts Curriculum frameworks (as they are revised), strengthening school climate, improving our near-real-time access to student data.

In December, after many discussions and meetings with many community and school groups, the “Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan” was submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. District schools also provided workshops for parents, families, and staff: “Bullying: Community Approach”, “Internet Safe and Smart” and “Internet Safety & Cyberbullying”. School staff participated in numerous discussion groups and workshops to increase awareness, understanding and appropriate prevention and intervention strategies. Students had many age appropriate opportunities to learn about bullying and cyber-bullying and students at Hampshire Regional planned and organized their own very successful anti-bullying program.

The District’s goals were reaffirmed and the importance of implementing a district-wide (preK-12) curriculum, professional development, supporting the use of technology, differentiated instruction, and student assessment, continuing ongoing and open communication with parents and community members, and providing for the safety and welfare of all students and staff. To this end, the District has: fully adopted a standards based report card aligned to school curriculum and State standards; increased the use of assessment data to help identify strengths and needs in instructional programming to enhance student academic performance; coordinating professional development to align our English Language Arts curriculum from preschool to eighth grade that incorporates curriculum, instruction, and assessment; examined the use of instructional technology to address effective

and meaningful use of interactive whiteboards and technology integration; refined the use of tiered instructional interventions and differentiated instruction; expanded outreach to parents and community members through expanded website, newsletter, and media use; and, promoted wellness and health initiatives for students and staff.

The elementary Standards-Based Report Card reached full implementation in June. This important initiative is consistent with a nationwide effort to implement effective grading practices that reflect what a student should know and be able to do at the end of each grade level. The District's Standards-Based Report Card is the culmination of a two year project during which time teachers and administrators reviewed curriculum frameworks, and identified "power standards" to improve the reporting of student progress to parents.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) continues to support Williamsburg in completing a feasibility study to address possible renovation of elementary school facilities. The School Building Committee contracted with the design and engineering firm ARCADIS to act as the Project Manager and continues to work with MSBA to move into the building design phase of this project.

All schools have developed and continue to revise and improve their school's multi-hazard emergency plans that include procedures for evacuation (fire drills), shelter-in-place, lockdown and relocation drills. The plans were developed in collaboration with the local police and fire departments. Each school has an identified team that is trained in emergency procedures such as CPR and the use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED). Schools have also practiced simulation exercises under the direction of the Massachusetts State Police STOP Team. Plans are to expand the type of drills conducted to include an evacuation and reunification exercise.

Our work together in the schools and communities is complex, sometimes overwhelming, and yet unquestionably essential and rewarding. Together we make a positive difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities in which we work. I encourage you to visit the individual school or Superintendent's website for current news and information about our students and District activities. Whenever you have a question or wish to become involved in your community schools, please call me.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Jurgensen
Superintendent of Schools

Pupil Services Annual Report 2009-2010

During the 2009-2010 school year, the Pupil Services Department of the Hampshire Regional School District provided support services to approximately 311 special needs students in district buildings or in out-of-district placements, 39 Smith Vocational School special needs students, 21 English Language Learners, 210 504 Accommodation Plan students, and 6 homeless students. Services were provided within the district's five public schools as well as in specialized programs in the region. These services consisted of educational assistance and remediation aligned with the established regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), policies and laws for educating students with limited English proficiency and the McKinney-Vento Act for serving homeless students. Direct related services included the following: speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, vision and mobility therapy, support for students with hearing impairments, therapies for students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and support/training for their families, counseling, and behavior management. The district also funded day and residential special education programs for 16 eligible

students.

Special education students receiving services in the district were provided access to each school's curriculum. The least restrictive environment concept, mandated through regulatory language in IDEA and considered best practice, provides the goal of special education within our schools. All of our elementary schools have developed inclusion classrooms and/or specific subjects where students are taught using a co-teaching model with the regular classroom teacher and the special education teacher. There was ongoing decision making at TEAM meetings, focusing on determining eligibility and meeting the program needs of eligible students. Agreements between parents and the school regarding programming were made in approximately 500 TEAM meetings. There were no TEAM meetings in which there was a need for mediation or intervention by the Bureau of Special Education Appeals. Staff efforts resulted in student success within the district's special education services. Assistance from teachers, administrators, support staff, paraprofessionals, and consultants contributed to the gains made in well-run inclusion-based services.

The Life Skills program at Hampshire Regional High School, serving students from 7th grade to age 22 with cognitive impairments and multiple disabilities, has continued to experience significant expansion to serve an increased number of students at middle school age. Participation in this program provides students with ongoing access to a pragmatically based academic program as well as education in skills needed for daily independent living, vocational and social success. Students are placed in community based jobs with coaches who provide them with guidance and support, allowing for immediate feedback while learning in an environment where skills are practiced in "real time". The success of this program has led to other districts interest in accessing "slots" to tuition students into our program.

In addition, the Norris Elementary School continues to offer a daily pragmatics class for 5th and 6th graders that incorporates

communication skills, gross motor skills that build the capacity to learn, introductions to activities of daily living, and review of basic math and reading skills into one program. The class has provided an opportunity for students with multiple disabilities to receive integrated direct instruction in areas critical to their development as productive adults.

Our district preschools continue to do an exceptional job serving young students with disabilities in an inclusion setting. Our programs are language-based and provide intensive related services within the typical preschool setting giving all children an enriched program and allowing students to maximize the development of peer related social skills and readiness for academic learning.

The Pupil Services Department continues to provide a wide array of training and in-service opportunities during the school year. Training was provided in the areas of working with children on the Autism Spectrum, achievement testing, special education regulations and the development of IEPs, restraint training, the development of MCAS alternative assessment portfolios, reading instruction, and the instruction of English Language Learners. Preschool teachers met regularly to enhance their individual work at their respective schools through sharing strategies and aligning curriculum/assessment for all district preschool students.

The breadth and depth of services and programs offered to the students of the Hampshire Regional School District is formidable and provided by skilled faculty working as a team with parents, classroom teachers, community members, and administrators. We continue to strengthen these services through aligning our approach to remediation in the primary subject areas, further implementation of school-wide curriculum based assessment and the development of student goals based on data, and the training of classroom teachers in areas necessary to enable them to reach all students in their classrooms more effectively.

Hampshire Regional High School

Enrollment 2009 - 2010

GRADE	7	8	9	10	11	12
Enrollment	154	168	128	144	137	112

Hampshire Regional High School Committee Members 2009-10

Donald Abel	Joseph Moynahan
Diane Bishop	David Nardi
Brad Brousseau	Karl Norris
Patricia Colson-Montgomery, Chair	David Pesuit
Nancy Curtis	Irene Ryan
Janice Gibeau	Katherine Smith
Todd Haskell, Alternate	Donald Snyder
Cathy Karowski	Angela Valinski
Sherrie Marti	Tarin Weiss, Alternate
Patrick Monahan	

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Around our region and across the country safety has been an issue of paramount importance for schools. In 2010 Massachusetts passed a law affecting how schools are to deal with bullying in schools. Westhampton teachers along with colleagues from the Hampshire Regional District began the 2010-2011 school year with training related to these new laws and procedures.

Cynthia Boyle from the District Attorney's office had an opportunity to work with both staff and students to better understand and combat the difficulties that bullying presents in our schools. In addition to this, the Westhampton Elementary School Committee developed new bullying policies and procedures to be in alignment with the recently passed state law.

Related to our efforts in school safety, a contingent of state and local police officers have been involved in trainings with the staff and students at Westhampton Elementary. These lockdown and shelter in place drills teach staff and students how to best react and remain safe during potentially threatening situations. In coordination with these drills we are updating locking and communication systems in classrooms. We have also updated policies and procedures for dealing with students with life threatening allergies. Our first priority is keeping all of our children safe.

This school year brings with it some changes in staffing. Sarah Moylan is completing her first year as 5th grade teacher in Westhampton. Shelby Marowitz, who previously taught part time, was hired to replace retired first grade teacher Debbie Brooks. Lindsey Meisner has joined our staff as a paraprofessional replacing Mrs. Labrecque who resigned in January. John Allen has replaced Mike Trombley as our school custodian. John is a Westhampton resident and a former student of Westhampton schools.

The end of the 2010 – 2011 school year will mark the completion of the teaching career and the beginning of a well-deserved retirement for our former fifth grade teacher and current reading specialist, Helene Pajak. We thank Helene for her many years of service to the school community of Westhampton Elementary.

We continue to focus our efforts to improve our entire curriculum. This year Westhampton Elementary was recognized at the state level for our academic growth by receiving the designations of a “Commendation School.” This was a very positive recognition of our academic growth and achievement. As a school community we celebrate our students’ success with MCAS, yet we aspire to more. We focus on producing students with a well-rounded educational background that combines social, artistic, academic and technological skills that enable a successful junior high school and beyond.

We have attained a major goal in the area of technology. We now have available to students a fully functional mobile computer lab. Our sixth grade students are currently using these computers to do research in class and create multi media presentations to demonstrate their knowledge of ancient cultures. All teachers will have this lab available to them to use in their classrooms to integrate the use of technology into their curriculum and enhance student learning.

Staff members take their work seriously and are taking advantage of frequent opportunities to engage in professional development to help them stay current in the field of education. Many staff members are increasing their use of technology in the classroom. Shelby Marowitz and Ellen Mckenzie have been taking a course designed to foster cooperation and critical thinking through the use of technology. As part of their participation in this course they will receive a digital projector and document camera for use in their classrooms.

Another focus of this year's work is developing school wide approaches to literacy that help teachers and students to work together to meet common goals. Recently we have begun experimenting with the use of the Story Grammar Marker program. This program introduces common language for teaching students to understand the elements of literature in both their reading and writing. This provides a common language for teachers and students to use when discussing literature and enables teachers to maintain continuity for teaching students from grade to grade.

In the curriculum areas of social studies and science we are updating materials and purchasing textbooks that are aligned with Massachusetts learning standards.

The PTO is an important part of the Westhampton Elementary School. Our P.T.O raises money for field trips, funds teacher requests and is involved in special activities like Fun Day and Grandparents Day. Their long-term focus is on replacing and

improving the play structure and playground area. Thank you to all of our parents that participate in the PTO.

The 2010- 2011 school year was our first year piloting a full day preschool program. The program has been well received by the community. Full day preschool meets the needs of Westhampton's families and helps students to be prepared for a successful transition to Kindergarten. We look forward to continuing to offer full day pre-school as an option all Westhampton families in the future.

The students and staff of Westhampton Elementary will continue to be a source of pride for our community. We work hard to meet the needs of the families and children. I am proud of the work that we have accomplished together.

Respectfully submitted,

Deane Bates

**WESTHAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2010 Enrollment**

Grade	Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6
Enrollment	27	12	20	20	14	19	15	18

**WESTHAMPTON STUDENTS AT HAMPSHIRE
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
2010 - 2011 Enrollment**

GRADE	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
ENROLLMENT	22	22	16	14	16	18

School Committee members for school year 2010-2011

Irene Ryan

Ashleigh Norris

Tarin Weiss, Chair

REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Hampshire Council of Governments is a membership based organization that solves common challenges through regional solutions while retaining local control over local affairs. The combined dues for the Council of Governments in Fiscal Year 2010 were \$37,206. Dues for all member towns have been reduced to ease the financial burden to the municipalities while increasing the stability of the Council membership. The dues collected help support Council programs, services, and assistance to a variety of programs. It is the continued goal of the Council to increase revenues from a variety of sources to offset the reduced assessment and to expand services.

The Council achieved several key goals in 2010.

- A strategic planning process was completed, with input from all towns in our service area. The Council will continue to refine this planning process and will work with our membership to create specific services and programs to meet the most pressing needs of the Towns.
- Hampshire Power continues is impressive expansion. It now serves the electricity needs of towns, schools, and businesses in the five Western Counties of Massachusetts - Hampshire, Franklin, Hampden, Worcester, and Berkshire.
- Hampshire Power is aggressively pursuing Municipal Aggregation, which will eventually strive to serve residential customers, expanding the benefit of our electricity cost saving model.
- Hampshire Care and the Hampshire Park property were sold to the Masonic Health System of Massachusetts.
- The Council Cooperative Purchasing Program saved the participants in this program approximately \$718,110.
- The Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust held down costs once again, keeping to single digit health care increases in a climate of double digit increases. The Trust remains the pinnacle of health insurance in the Commonwealth.

- The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) provided 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$2.58 million.
- The Councilors established a scholarship fund to help support high school students who have demonstrated civic and community involvement

Hampshire Power

Hampshire Power continued to expand with the number of customers increasing to almost 100. The energy load increased from 4 to 6 MWs during FY2010. More towns and districts in Worcester and Berkshire Counties joined the Program and the renewal rate of contracts was 100%. A new rate plan was added during the year which resulted in three choices for customers – the new Fixed, the Real Time, and the Profit Share. During FY2010, Real Time Rate customers saved a total of \$410,000 compared to the utilities' rates. The Municipal Aggregation Initiative was launched with the hiring of a staff person to research regulations, meet with towns' Boards of Selectmen, develop the necessary plan for the Department of Public Utilities, and commence aggregation for a number of towns. The Green Committee, a sub-committee of the Electricity Committee, was revived and green options for customers, sustainability, and renewable energy programs continue to be researched. To decrease the risk involved in purchasing electricity, staff had reviewed proposals and met with consultants in order to contract for purchasing services in the new fiscal year.

Cooperative Purchasing

The Cooperative Purchasing program, now in its 30th year, coordinates and administers a formal bidding process on behalf of Council departments, municipalities, school districts, human service agencies, and miscellaneous governmental entities throughout the Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire County region. Buying in bulk generates added savings over lone bidding efforts while complying with state procurement statutes and eliminating duplication of administrative work. The total purchasing volume for goods and services for Fiscal Year 2010 was \$4.6 million with a projected savings of \$718,110.

Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust

In a year when many towns are facing double-digit rate increases in health insurance premiums, our towns once again held their costs to

single-digit increases. The Hampshire Councilors serve as the trustees of the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust, a cooperative effort to provide health and life insurance with excellent benefits at competitive rates. An Insurance Advisory Committee, made up of representatives of all participating units, meets regularly to discuss problems and possible solutions and to explore new ideas. The Trust manages a self-funded group of health insurance products. In the Insurance Year 2010 (April 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010), the collective premium for the Trust was \$45M. Through the efforts and expertise of the Trust management, the volume of participation in the program, and the participation of the town representatives on the Advisory Board, the Insurance Trust is successful at managing costs while providing excellent benefits.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) of Hampshire & Franklin Counties is the Council's community service program that mobilizes adults age 55+ to meet community needs by recruiting, placing, and supporting volunteers in a diverse array of service opportunities at local non-profit and public agencies. RSVP matches people with experience and skills to offer with organizations that need their help. The program benefits the senior population by keeping them active and engaged, and benefits our region by bringing these volunteers' dedication, wisdom, and expertise to bear on our communities' most pressing needs.

During FY10, RSVP brought on 141 new volunteers bringing our total volunteer force to 653. These volunteers gave more than 124,000 hours of service to our communities, equaling a contribution of more than \$2.58 million. RSVP Volunteers serve at hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, after school programs, survival centers, and senior centers in towns across the two counties.

The following are some examples of the impact RSVP volunteers are having on our communities:

- During the reporting period 20 volunteers worked with 203 students in schools and after school programs to improve academic skills. 74% of students increased their interest in reading and 76% improved their academic skills.
- Through RSVP's Osteoporosis Exercise Program, 32 volunteers led strength training classes for 242 seniors. 85% of class participants improved their physical health and 97% improved their ability to avoid falls or broken bones.

- 128 volunteers increased food security in our region by providing food to more than 800 elders.
- 255 volunteers improved the quality of life for more than 10,000 seniors by leading activities and providing information at senior centers.

Regional Services

The Regional Services Department develops regional approaches to problems shared by Hampshire County municipalities. The department secured surplus federal equipment for various Massachusetts municipalities and state entities. The current net savings of property delivered to member communities for Fiscal Year 2010, after fees and delivery charges, totaled \$4,400.00. Net program income from fees was \$6,350.00. Member communities receive a 50% discount off the Council portion of the fee, as well as the right of first refusal on higher quality pieces of equipment obtained through the surplus program. The department arranges workshops and seminars on topics of interest to local officials.

Hampshire Inspection Program

Now in its sixteenth year, the Hampshire Inspection Program is a fee for service building inspection and zoning enforcement program serving Chesterfield, Goshen, Huntington, and Middlefield. Annual assessments are based on building permit and zoning activity. Two hundred and ninety-eight building permits were issued in FY2010, of which twenty-five permits were for new homes. Annual assessments to member towns are based on hours spent on building permit and zoning activity. All administrative, clerical, and travel expenses are shared equally by member towns. The program offers a fully certified inspector who regularly attends training and educational seminars.

Wellness Initiative Program

The Wellness Initiative is a worksite wellness program working with 70 municipal units to identify the needs and interests of subscribers and to provide information, education and programs promoting healthier choices. The Wellness Initiative launched several new programs including: Being a wise health care consumer; Mediterranean Diet Nutrition class and sampling; and Walking challenges in several communities. The Initiative also piloted 4 wellness teams to assess the health risks, needs and interests of employees in their work place and identify programs and strategies to meet these health needs

The Tobacco Free Community Partnership

The Tobacco Free Community Partnership conducts compliance checks to monitor the illegal sale of tobacco products to minors, and provides education on the health and economic effects of tobacco. In addition the program sponsors a western mass smoke free apartment website for both landlords interested in making their buildings smoke free and tenants interested in finding smoke free apartments. Landlords can list their smoke free apartments for free. The website can be found at www.smokefree.hampshirecog.org,

For further information on Council programs, expenses, and revenues, please contact the Councilors' Office at 413-584-1300 ext. 2. You may also visit the Council website at www.hampshirecog.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia King
Executive Assistant
Hampshire Council of Governments

REPORT OF THE HILLCITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation (Hilltown CDC) was created in 1981 with a mission to *"improve the quality of life for hilltown residents by addressing economic, housing, educational, social and community needs while preserving the rural character of the area."* Its core service area includes the ten towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington. In recent years its small business assistance program has expanded to serve 20 Hilltowns. Hilltown CDC's four major program areas are affordable housing, small business assistance, social services and community facilities development. Hilltown CDC also writes applications for and manages Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds on behalf of Hilltown communities. In Fiscal Year 2010, Hilltown CDC helped the eight towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Westhampton, Worthington and Williamsburg secure \$2.035 million in CDBG funds to support the programs highlighted below.

Social Services: Hilltown CDC's Hilltown Elder Network (HEN) Program delivered 7,000 hours of in-home caregiving assistance (primarily chore and transportation assistance) to over 120 low-income Hilltown elders at no cost to the participants. HEN staff provided 20,000 miles of transportation for medical visits and other purposes, and \$10,000 in snow removal help. Hilltown CDC also secured CDBG funding for three locally-based social service programs:

- **The Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE),** administered by Hilltown Community Health Centers (HCHC), provided free in-home nursing care and podiatric services to nearly 250 eligible homebound elders.
- **The Hilltown Food Pantry** distributed 63,000 pounds of food to 287 eligible hilltown individuals. The Pantry is administered by the Northampton Survival Center at the Goshen Town Hall. Call 586-6564 or 268-7578 for information.
- **Families Together,** another HCHC program, offered training and peer support activities focused on family issues such as parenting, family dynamics, and family health education to 52 hilltown households.

Economic Development: Hilltown CDC, from July 2009 to June 2010:

- Provided individualized consulting and/or training workshops to 176 small businesses.
- Published the 2010 Hilltown Business Directory, distributed to 13,500 hilltown households in 20 towns, listing 290 hilltown businesses, 80 regional resource agencies, and contact information for officials of 20 towns. The Directory is also on-line at www.hilltowncdc.org.
- Organized the 4th annual Hilltown Spring Festival at the Cummington Fairgrounds, gathering 2,000 hilltowners to enjoy 17 local music and dance groups, food from 7 local vendors, and displays by 55 local businesses and 15 non-profit organizations.

Affordable Housing: We actively pursue opportunities to preserve and create affordable housing to meet the needs of low and moderate income Hilltown residents.

- **Westhampton Woods Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC conducted a feasibility study to expand this senior rental housing complex we built in 2005 from seven to fifteen units.

- **Chesterfield Senior Housing:** Hilltown CDC worked with the Chesterfield Senior Housing Committee to identify a site and obtain funds for a small senior housing project.
- **Rental Housing:** Hilltown CDC improved management of its 30 units of scarce affordable rental housing in Williamsburg, Huntington, Westhampton and Chesterfield.
- **New Project Development:** Hilltown CDC investigated a number of other potential sites in an ongoing effort to develop additional rental housing for seniors and families in the region.

First-time Homebuyer Program: Hilltown CDC provided individual homebuyer counseling and workshops to 118 households to help them prepare for the purchase of homes. In addition, CDBG funding enabled 5 income-eligible households to secure grants and deferred payment loans to help them buy homes in the Hilltowns.

Housing Rehabilitation Program: provides zero percent interest, deferred-payment loans to income eligible homeowners for use in making a wide variety of repairs to their homes, including roofs, septic systems, electrical, plumbing, and heating. In addition, the program provides a source of steady year round employment for area contractors. In FY 2010 HCDC:

- Rehabilitated 11 houses in the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Westhampton and Williamsburg and Worthington using deferred payment loans for home repairs and lead paint removal totaling \$213,134.

Community Facilities: Hilltown CDC works with municipalities and a wide range of community groups in the public and private sector. The Community Facilities Program provides project management services for development and the construction of buildings or infrastructure projects, large or small. We provide guidance to building committees and town officials. We also assist by researching and completing applications for project funding.

Below is a list of FY 2010 Accomplishments in the Community Facilities Program:

- Procured architectural services to develop construction documents for an elevator project at Nash Hill Place. Worked with an Advisory Committee appointed by the town of

Williamsburg to oversee the work. An application was submitted to the CDBG Program for FY10 funding to construct the project.

- Entered into a fee for service contract with the town of Chesterfield to provide project management services for the construction of a new Highway Garage. Procured architectural services and coordinated funding applications with USDA Rural Development and with The Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond Fund Programs.
- Assisted the Town of Plainfield with the procurement and delivery of a new police cruiser valued at \$35,041.

Community Planning: We also work closely with municipalities and community groups in our service area to plan for, raise funds for and/or manage a range of projects. During FY10 HCDC:

- Provided planning assistance to the Northern Hilltowns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington for preparing and updating their Community Development Strategies. A number of new community needs were identified, along with projects to be included in future CDBG funding applications.
- Secured a second \$15,000 grant from the Mass. Service Alliance to engage three part-time Commonwealth Corps volunteers who provided planning and logistical support to expand the Elder Small Home Repair program and to create a new youth pilot project.

In FY 2010, Hilltown CDC generated over \$1.6 million in revenue to support the above projects and its members elected five new Board representatives: Bill Adams (Plainfield), Michele Morris (Williamsburg), Andy Myers (Chester), Laura Porter (Haydenville), Cathy Roth (Middlefield) We also bid farewell to two members retiring from Board service: Bob Heath, (Huntington) and Marjorie Snyder (Williamsburg). Thanks to you all for your dedicated service to the Hilltowns!

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Roegge, Executive Director

SALARIES

All figures are annual unless otherwise noted.

ELECTED OFFICIALS	FY11	Proposed FY12
Selectboard Chairman	1,400	1425
Others	1,200	1225
Board of Assessors Chairman	2725	2725
Others	2475	2475
Board of Health	500	525
Town Clerk	8500	10000
Tax Collector	13000	13325
Treasurer	10860	13325
Auditor	350	375
Moderator	350	375
School Committee Chairman	380	405
Others	350	375
Tree Warden	500	525
APPOINTED OFFICIALS		
Accounting Officer	10,860	11395
Administrative Assistant	15,497	15884
Animal Inspector	684	709
Assessor Assistant	\$18.91/hr.	\$19.38/hr.
Assessor's Secretary	1654	945
Clerk, Bd. Registrars	100	100
Election Workers	8.00/hour	8.20/hour
Health Agent	15.00/hour	15.38/hour
Town Hall Custodian	11.03/hour	11.31/hour
Veterans Agent	1,337	1500
BUILDING DEPARTMENT		
Building Inspector	8,500	8,713
Wiring	30/inspection	30/inspection
Plumbing Inspectors	20/inspection	20/inspection
Sanitation Inspector	25/inspection	25/inspection
CEMETERY CARETAKER	5338	5471
EMERGENCY MGT DIR	316	341
FIRE CHIEF	8,000	10,000
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT		
Grade 1A	21.18/hour	21.68/hour
Grade 1	20.16/hour	20.66/hour
Superintendent	53,873	55,220
LANDFILL Caretaker	10.76	11.03/hour
LIBRARY Director	40,682	41,699
Staff Librarian	13.67/hour	14.01/hour
Custodian	10.76/hour	10.00/hour
Substitutes	9.00/hour	9.22/hour
POLICE CHIEF	20,421	20,932
Officers – Regular	13.13/hour	13.46/hour
Sergeant	15.23/hour	15.61/hour
Court	15.75/hour	16.14/hour

PROPOSED BUDGET FISCAL 2012

ACCOUNT	VOTE	PROPOSED
GENERAL	FY2011	FY2012
GOVERNMENT		
Counsel Fees	5000	8000
Moderator	350	375
Selectboard Salary	3800	3875
Selectboard Expense	3700	3700
Administrative Assistant	15497	15884
Auditor Salary	350	375
Accounting Officer Salary	10860	11132
Accounting Office Expense	2335	2529
Audit (Article 14)		7000
Assessor Salary	7675	7675
Assessor Expense	7600	7275
Assessor Assistant	13658	13999
Assessor Secretary	1654	945
Treasurer Salary	10860	11132
Treasurer Expense	5110	5004
Tax Collector Salary	13000	13325
Tax Collector Expense	10953	10911
Town Clerk Salary	8500	8713
Town Clerk Expense	4430	4020
Clerk, Board of Registrars	100	100
Conservation Commission	265	200
Zoning Board Expense	600	600
Planning Board Expense	200	200
HIGHWAYS		
Highway Administration	4000	4000
Highway Salaries	185000	189625
Highway Materials	69630	74630
Road Machinery	35650	40650
Road Machinery Fuel	35700	35700
Snow Removal	70000	100000
Road Machinery Buildings	19820	19820
Brush Chipper	40000	
Backhoe (Article 12)		98000
SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES		
Hampshire Regional HS (Article 5)	1073162	1072209
HRHS Capital (Article 6)	79353	80787
Vocational Tuition (Article 8)	290945	235000
Vocational Transportation (Art. 9)	40950	42383
Elementary School (Article 7)	1266000	1290080
School Committee Salary	1080	1155
Library	72050	72289

VETERANS		
Veterans Expense	2000	7500
Veterans Agent Salary	1337	1840
Memorial Day	100	100
Cultural Council	75	75
CEMETERIES		
Cemetery Salary	5338	5471
PROTECTION OF PERS & PROP		
Police Chief	20421	20932
Police Department	31018	31544
Police Vehicle	36900	0
Fire Chief	8000	10000
Emergency Mgt Director	316	341
Fire Department	18344	18344
Safety Complex	12515	12515
Fire Staff Car (Article 11)	0	40000
Emergency Medical Services	12500	15050
Inspector Salary	13300	13512
Inspector Expense	1250	1250
Tree Warden Expense	1500	1500
Tree Warden Salary	500	525
Animal Inspector	684	709
HEALTH & SANITATION		
Hilltown Resource Mgt. Coop.	4493	4269
Board of Health Salary	1500	1575
Board of Health Expense	71279	68680
Health Agent	10000	8200
DEBT & INTEREST		
Long Term Debt	120000	125000
Interest Long Term Debt	49100	44300
UNCLASSIFIED		
Insurance & Bonds	58000	62000
Town Offices	18040	18240
Town Offices Upgrade	11000	0
Council on Aging	1200	1200
COA Coordinator		1000
Historical	1200	1200
County Retirement	113144	123875
Council of Governments	381	1521
Pioneer Valley Planning Council	221	221
Unemployment (Article 15)	14000	15000
Group Insurance	328000	320000
Medicare	18000	22000
Reserve Fund	<u>10000</u>	<u>10000</u>
TOTAL	4409974	4502786

ARTICLES ON THE WARRANT

MAY 14, 2011

ARTICLE 1: To hear and act on all reports presented at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectmen.

ARTICLE 3: To vote in compliance with Section 108, Chapter 41 G.L., which requires that salaries of elected officials be fixed by vote of the Town.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, such sum of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges in the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's assessment for Fiscal 2012, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's capital assessment for Fiscal 2012, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the Elementary School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school tuition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school transportation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the salary of a Coordinator for the Council on Aging, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to purchase a staff vehicle for the Fire Department, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, *debt exclusion \$40,000.*

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to purchase a backhoe for the Highway Department, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, *Capital exclusion \$98,000*

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the grant match to purchase Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for the Fire Department, contingent upon receiving a grant award for such equipment, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a Financial Audit for the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto. *\$7,000*

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money to hold in anticipation of unemployment benefits for Town employees in accordance with Chapter 151A of the General Laws of Massachusetts. *\$15,000.*

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds, due to the town as Chapter 90 Highway funds, from the Transportation Bond Issue, or take any other action in relation thereto. *\$109,381*

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund for the Fire Department, under MGL Chapter 44, sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto. *\$3,000.*

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund for the Westhampton Cemetery, under MGL Chapter 44, Sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto. *\$8,000.*

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westhampton Zoning Bylaw as follows:

To amend Section 5.6 MOBILE HOMES, by adding sub-section 5.62

5.62 A landowner constructing a new dwelling unit, or the owner or occupier of a residence which is undergoing renovation, may, with a Special Permit from the Board of Appeals, place a trailer or mobile home on the site of such residence and may reside in such trailer or mobile home for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months. Such temporary trailer or mobile home shall be subject to the provisions of Title V, the State Sanitary Code.

Send back to committee.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westhampton General Bylaws as follows:

Article 2 Section 2-1-1 Officers to be elected: Delete: “a town clerk, elected for a term of three years”

Article 4 The Selectboard: Section 5 Powers of Appointment: add subsection 4-5-3 The Selectboard shall also appoint a Town Clerk, for a term not to exceed three (3) years, in accordance with G.L. c.41, §1B.

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING.

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